THE TIMES 35P

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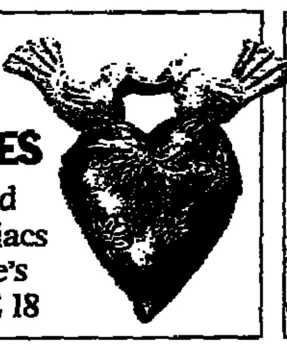

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BEST FOR JOBS

WANTED
☐ Manager.........70K
☐ Buyer.........55K
☐ Analyst.........30K
☐ Graduate.........18K

APPOINTMENTS 30-PAGE SECTION

Bounty on Rushdie raised to $2.5m

Rushdie: "cost of living increase" in reward

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor, and Michael Theodoulou in Nicosia

A *SHADOWY* Iranian foundation yesterday increased the reward for the murder of Salman Rushdie by *$500,000 to $2.5 million (£1.53* million) and said that even non-Muslims would be eligible to collect the bounty.

Britain swiftly denounced the move as as an "outrageous infringement" of the British *author's fundamental* rights and rejected attempts by President Rafsanjani to distance his Government from the offer.

The Foreign Office dismissed suggestions that the 15 Khordad Foundation, a Qom-based charitable trust, was independent and said: "We call on President Rafsanjani specifically to condemn the bounty and to provide the European Union with those written assurances which we seek."

Mr Rushdie, who has been under threat of death since the late *Ayatollah Khomeini proclaimed a fatwa* over his book *The Satanic Verses* on February 14, 1989, *described the bigger reward as* "just a cost of living increase". But he said it showed how Europe's attempts to *negotiate with the "gangster state"* had been a complete failure. He urged European politicians to stop "bending over backwards" to appease Iran.

In fact, relations between Iran and the West have taken a rapid turn for the worse and the EU is about to abandon its "critical dialogue" with Tehran, believing that it has achieved nothing.

President Rafsanjani said yesterday *that he did not foresee* any easing in Tehran's strained relations with America, while a senior *Iranian official in London said* Tehran had no time for a dialogue with Europe and would concentrate *on fellow Muslim countries.*

The increase in the bounty was announced in the hardline *Jomhuri Islami* newspaper, which reported Ayatollah Sheikh Hassan Sanei, the head of the 15 Khordad Foundation, as saying that anyone who killed the "apostate" writer could claim the reward, including non-Muslims and his bodyguards.

The International Rushdie Defence Committee said the new offer increased its concern. "Obviously we are alarmed," the group's secretary, Carmel Bedford, said. But *Rushdie denied reports that his* security had already been stepped up. It was already tight, and there was *no pressure on him to retreat.* "My view is that you don't defeat such threats by running away. It is important to show that life goes on."

President Rafsanjani insisted that the foundation's move did not concern his Government. "I don't know what their motive was, but the government's policy towards the (Rushdie affair) is the same as before, and one which we have repeatedly announced," he said.

But Britain has been increasingly concerned at the level of killings by Iranian agents overseas, and is now *pressing for a sharp signal to* Tehran that it must curb terrorism. Although not supporting the sanc*tions demanded by Washington, the* Government has moved closer to the American view that Iran is a main sponsor of international terrorism and a danger to world peace.

Britain's condemnation of Iran over the Rushdie bounty was supported by its European partners, and the Government will find powerful support for a tougher line. Germany, in particular, is disillusioned with the results of its controversial political opening to Iran. Prosecutors at a trial in Berlin have accused the Iranian Government *of ordering the killings of*

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Labour tries to force vote of confidence

By Jill Sherman and Philip Webster

THE Labour Party is attempting to harry John Major into an *early general election by* forcing a critical vote that could in turn lead to a confidence vote.

Labour will call on Monday for Douglas Hogg to be *sacked as Agriculture Minister* over his handling of the BSE crisis. If the Opposition won, *it it would be under* pressure to hold a confidence vote the next day, possibly *triggering a general election.*

However, the Government is not yet in a minority and so should not lose — even if the Ulster Unionists, who are deeply unhappy about the fallout from "mad cow" disease, voted with Labour. Ministers were confident last night that they would see off the threat by bringing all Conservative MPs to the Commons.

A party spokesman said: "Parliament has had ample opportunity to discuss this issue and the Government is taking forward policies to deal with this complicated issue in a [illegible] manner. In stark contrast, Labour are indulging in parliamentary gimmicks and personality *politics.*"

Labour would have preferred to call the vote after the *Wirral South* by-election on February 27, when the Government is expected to go into *minority. But* Monday is the last chance for an Opposition-day debate and the Shadow *Cabinet* decided last night to use it on an issue that unites most other parties against the *Government.* The motion will demand a cut in Mr Hogg's salary — a device used to *signal that* the minister should be dismissed.

Labour is relying on *support from the* Ulster Unionists, but it will also need to get at least one Tory and *all the opposition* parties voting with it to win. If both sides muster all their forces — and there appeared little likelihood that any Conservative would desert the Government — the result would be a tie, with the Speaker required *to exercise* her casting vote for the Government.

Labour strategists said last night there had been informal talks with the Ulster Unionists, but *denied that* they *had* been given any assurances. However they are optimistic about winning their support on an issue that has upset many *Ulster Unionists* with *farming* constituencies. "We will be talking to the Unionists about their concerns over the next *few weeks,*" *a* senior Labour source said.

Labour intends to build up pressure *on the BSE issue* throughout this week and over the weekend, accusing the Government *of incompetence.* John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader will be responsible for the strategy, which *is also* aimed at raising public indignation over John Major's in*ability to get the world ban on* British beef lifted.

Mr Prescott said *last* night: "*How can a man responsible* for one of the biggest bills for incompetence this country has *ever seen be worth a Ministe*rial salary? We will hold Douglas Hogg to account for the £3 billion his Govern*ment's incompetence has cost* Britain."

The nine Ulster Unionists *said that they would make* a decision on how they would vote at a meeting just before *the division on Monday night.* They are all expected to vote together. Party sources said that they were *still aggrieved* about the beef crisis, but recent concerns had been *centred more on the National* Farmers' Union — which had resisted mass slaughter — *than on Mr Hogg's performance.*

One source said that the party *was ready for a general* election and would not be bothered if a confidence vote was held *immediately.* "We will have to weigh it up closely."

*However John Taylor, dep*uty leader of the party, later made clear that the price for *Ulster Unionists support in a* confidence motion would be for the Government to offer *the same terms for a Northern* Ireland grand committee as those for the grand committee *for Wales and Scotland.*

The Shadow Cabinet's decision to call the censure vote came amid the *widespread* assumption that Mr Major has decided to call the election *on May 1. His last opportunity* for calling the poll on March 20 — and calling off the Wirral *by-election — is the middle of* next week, but ministers say that he now accepts that to do so would *smack of panic.*

Labour party sources emphasised last night that *Tony Blair would not attempt* a vote of no confidence unless he was certain that he would win. But he would face charges of cowardice if he failed to do so after a win on Monday night.

Labour also pointed out that the last time a censure motion against a minister was successful was 102 years ago.

Chancellor rejects Bank's rate call

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, made it clear that he intends to continue defying the Bank of England's demands for higher interest rates. The Bank repeated its call for a modest rise in rates to meet the Government's inflation target of 2.5 per cent.

Unemployment fell sharply by 67,800 in January, leaving Britain's unemployment rate *at 6.5 per cent, its lowest level* since December 1990.

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Lucy Winkett, the first woman priest appointed by St Paul's, on her ordination day

St Paul's row on woman priest

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

A CANON at St Paul's Cathedral yesterday attacked the appointment of the cathedral's *first woman priest as "typical* of the liberal agenda" and said he will boycott communion *services whenever* the Rev Lucy Winkett, 29, is presiding.

Canon John Halliburton, the chancellor of St Paul's, said: "I don't believe her to be a priest". Her appointment brought "impaired communion" into the heart of the cathedral. "I have *nothing* against women," he added. "Their gender does not worry *me at all. She is a very sweet* girl."

Canon Halliburton, who abstained *when the* cathedral's dean and chapter voted to appoint Miss Winkett, said his objection was based on the question of authority. He believed the Church of England had no right to ordain women priests, when the majority of Christendom, such as *the* Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, ordained men only.

Miss Winkett's appointment as a minor canon at the *cathedral was defended by the* Dean, the Very Rev Dr John Moses, who joined the cathedral staff last November after the retirement of the late Dr Eric Evans, a traditionalist. Dean Moses said he was a supporter of women priests, but added: "We are not playing gender politics. We appointed her because she was the best candidate for the post."

Dr Moses, who confessed to being "*almost tone deaf*", said it was Miss Minkett's remark-

Continued on page 2, col 1

Soldier killed at checkpoint by IRA sniper

By Nicholas Watt, Chief Ireland Correspondent

AN IRA sniper killed a soldier and injured a *woman civilian* in the border village of Bessbrook, Co Armagh, last *night*

The soldier died after he was struck by a single high-*velocity round as he manned a* vehicle checkpoint in the predominantly Protestant village, *which houses a large security* base. He was taken to the Daisy Hill Hospital in Newry, Co *Down, where* he was declared dead.

The woman, who suffered *head cuts as she drove* through the checkpoint, was also taken to the hospital, but *her condition was described as* not serious. A nine-year-old boy and a second woman were *treated for shock.*

The victim was the first soldier to be shot dead by the *IRA in Northern Ireland for* three years and the second to be murdered by the terrorists *since the IRA ceasefire ended a* year ago.

The shooting was immed*iately condemned* by the Prime Ministers of both Britain and Ireland and by the *Northern Ireland Secretary.* John Major said: "How many more victims must there be *before the evil men responsi*ble recognise the utter futility of their terrorism? Meanwhile *the total hypocrisy of Sinn* Fein's talk of peace is yet again fully exposed.

"*Let me make two promises* tonight: there will be no hiding place for the culprits — none at all — *and I will not* be deflected from the real search for a lasting settlement and *peace in Northern Ireland.*"

John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, said the kill*ing was an outrage, adding:* "The IRA campaign is anti-Irish and contrary to the *interests of all in Ireland.*"

Sir Patrick Mayhew described the shooting as a "*coward's attack*" *which point*ed up the cynical contrast between words of peace and *crimes of terrorism. He added* that the IRA showed wanton indifference to their victims.

The shooting came after a series of mortar and grenade attacks on the security forces, *which the IRA said last week* was not a phoney war. The terrorists also said that a new *ceasefire was "most unlikely"* before the general election.

Lorries trapped

Scores of British *lorry drivers were trapped* in Spain as an increasingly violent strike by Spanish *truckers closed most* of *the* country's northern motorways.........Page 17

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BT staff dial £10 Concorde win

By Glen Owen and Stephen Farrell

TWO British Telecom staff *working in the same office* were among the 190 people who beat 30 million callers for a *British Airways offer* of £10 Concorde seats which normally cost £5,400.

Experts called for *BT staff to* be excluded from future competitions, claiming that some might have access to inside *information which* could improve their chances.

But British Telecom said Tuesday's *call-in offer* was a genuine "*lottery*" *with callers* given an equal chance to win. A spokesman said there would *not be an investigation without* evidence of wrongdoing.

One of the BT winners, Neville Secular, 25, *a computer operator* based in offices at Holborn, central London, insisted he had simply dialled in *the* usual way.

"I tried the number a couple of times before 10 o'clock but *they were playing a recorded* message telling me to call later. I put the speaking clock on, so I knew exactly when to try again, using the redial *button on my phone,*" *he said,* adding that his colleague had done likewise. "Some might *think that we found some* way round it, but it is not true. My colleague is not in today, he is *probably getting ready* to pack," said Mr Secular, who will fly out with his fiancée, Helen McCarthy, on Valentine's Day.

Of the 30 million attempted calls recorded by British Airways *switchboard between* 9pm and midnight, 20 million were made between 9.50 and *10.15. Two million calls* came from abroad.

"Cancel the pizza — let's have a Chinese"

England lose vital World Cup game

ENGLAND *faltered in their* campaign to qualify for the World Cup last night when *they lost 0-1 to Italy* at Wembley. Zola scored after 18 minutes. Despite almost con*stant pressure in the* second half England failed to break through.

England still head group 2 *but they have played a game* more than Italy, who have the same number of points.

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All of Beethoven's Symphonies in the palm of your hand.

See page 5.

هكذا من الأصل

Those Chinese chaps had better jolly well behave

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

I will do such things, —
What they are yet I know not, — but they shall be
The terrors of the earth.

Jeremy Hanley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, makes an unlikely King Lear — he is about as tragic as roast beef and Yorkshire pudding — but found *himself* in need of such an imprecation yesterday. He was challenged to say what Britain would do if China tears up the Basic Law safeguards Britain has agreed with China for the protection of Hong Kong.

Commons rumblings about Governor Patten's democratisation have virtually ceased. Opinion at Westminster is hardening in his support. As MPs see it, by setting up a puppet legislature for Hong Kong, Beijing has put itself beyond the pale. MPs look beyond June 30, fear the worst and wonder how they will answer the question "What did you do before the Atrocities, Daddy, to support democracy?" So they come to Foreign Office Questions and wave their tiny fists at the People's Republic.

"Everybody here expects China to honour its obligations," said Labour spokesman Derek Fatchett. What would the Government do about Chinese misbehaviour?

"I made a formal protest to the Chinese Ambassador last Thursday," declared Mr Hanley, stoutly. One was reassured, of course. Still, one reflected that, after many millennia of earthquakes, after the Mongol hordes and the Great Wall, after the Opium Wars, the sacking of Shanghai, the Long March and the Cultural Revolution, it did seem just possible that China might not crumble in the face of a protest from Mr Jeremy Hanley last Thursday.

Mr Hanley is a rather good Minister of State: cheery, decent sounding, well-briefed and enthusiastic. But it never quite escapes our suspicion that he may have missed his *métier* as a jolly television figure in a white apron, advertising Bernard Matthews Norfolk Turkeys, perhaps, or Bisto gravy mix, or Paxo stuffing. The thought of the Chinese Ambassador quailing before him and promising to reverse Beijing's policy towards Hong Kong took a little getting used to.

The mournfully expert David Howell (C, Guildford) reminded Hanley that Britain's 1984 agreement with China guaranteed Hong Kong's system of government. What steps was Britain taking to insist on this? These were important problems, said Mr Hanley, sturdily. "It is right that we query them — and query them with great resolve!"

Indeed. In our mind's eye we pictured the scene in the Forbidden City as messengers arrive with momentous news from the West: "Grim tidings from *Rondon*, your exerrency, Mister Hanrey is querying with great resolve."

Noticing that Mr Howell looked unconvinced by this assurance, the minister added: "We will continue to press the Chinese." That's all right, then. Even as he spoke, we could sense the Hong Kong dollar surge on the foreign exchanges.

David Evans (C, Welwyn and Hatfield) picked on an easier foe. Assuring us that "while the Conservatives are in office, the Union Jack will continue to fly over Gibraltar!", Mr Evans accused Labour ("that lot over there") of planning to "give away the Rock *and* its monkeys" to Spain. "But it takes a monkey to recognise one!" yelled the MP, *mysteriously*.

What could he mean? Was self-knowledge dawning, at last, on Mr Evans? Labour's Andrew Mackinlay suggested that Gibraltar should elect an MP at Westminster. It struck us that, should the apes wish to send us a representative, no new election is necessary. The good people of Welwyn have sent one already.

Albright postpones symbolic meeting with Ulster Secretary

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX
IN WASHINGTON
AND NICHOLAS WATT

A MEETING between Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, which was scheduled for next week to discuss the peace process, now appears unlikely to take place.

The meeting was postponed after a report in *The Times that President Clinton* was about to make a decisive shift in his policy on Northern Ireland. It said that the proposed meeting with Sir Patrick was intended to give more emphasis to backing the British and Irish Governments while slapping down Jean Kennedy Smith, the American Ambassador to Ireland.

White House officials emphasised yesterday that Northern Ireland will be high on the agenda when Ms Albright meets John Major on Tuesday. But ministers were disappointed that the US Administration had backed away from a symbolically important meeting with Sir Patrick. However, senior government figures said that they remained confident of a marked shift in support for the British stance in dealing with Sinn Fein and the IRA.

Kennedy Smith: stays as Dublin ambassador

A spokesman said: "The request for the meeting came from the American side and the Secretary of State was quite willing to meet Ms Albright. Now the American side are saying that their schedule in London is too tight. We are still looking forward to a meeting with Ms Albright as soon as it is possible."

Clinton Administration officials were anxious yesterday to dismiss reports that they had begun to adopt a more wary approach towards the aspirations of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA. But there have also been indications that they are irritated by a series of reports in British newspapers critical of American officials involved in the peace process.

White House officials said yesterday that the peace process was close to Mr Clinton's heart and that "it remains the President's policy, no one else's". Primary responsibility for the policy would remain with the National Security Council rather than the State Department.

The Irish Government, which pressed for Jean Kennedy Smith to remain as Ambassador to Dublin after *The Times* reported that she was to be moved, yesterday welcomed the news that she would remain at her post. A *government spokesman said:* "Mrs Kennedy Smith has been part of an administration that has been very supportive of the Irish Government in its efforts to bring peace to Northern Ireland. She enjoys the support and confidence of the Government."

The "green lobby" swung into action in her support on both sides of the Atlantic after *The Times* reported that President Clinton was planning to replace her. John Bruton, Ireland's Prime Minister, sang her praises in its parliament as his Government pressed for her to remain in Dublin. Irish diplomats in Washington reiterated the Taoiseach's remarks and made clear to the Administration that Dublin saw the ambassador's contacts with Sinn Fein as a key element in trying to rebuild the peace process.

The diplomatic efforts were strengthened by Irish-Americans on Capitol Hill who threw their weight behind President Kennedy's younger sister. Peter King, the Democratic congressman, questioned Ms Albright about Mrs Kennedy Smith at a congressional hearing on Tuesday. The new Secretary of State highlighted the power of the "green lobby" when she responded that Mrs Kennedy Smith was not being recalled: The ambassador made clear on Tuesday that she wanted to remain in Dublin when, after a meeting at the Department of Foreign Affairs with Dick Spring, the Deputy Prime Minister, she said: "If the President would like me to stay, I would love to stay."

Madeleine Albright will discuss Northern Ireland when she meets Mr Major

Leading article, page 21

Tax on utilities is legal, says QC

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Labour leadership last night published independent advice stating that its proposed "windfall tax" on privatised utilities is legal. The move was meant to remove any doubts about its plans to raise £5 billion to put 250,000 young people into work.

The cornerstone of Labour's economic policy appeared to be intact after Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, reversed his previous refusal to reveal the reasons for Labour's confidence that the tax is legal.

In an eight-page opinion, Michael Beloff, QC, one of the Bar's most respected figures and President of Trinity College, Oxford, concludes that the windfall tax could not attract a challenge under domestic law; that it should not attract a challenge under European law but that if it did the challenge would fail; and that it would withstand any challenge which might come under the European Convention on Human Rights.

In a further blow to utility leaders who have threatened court action, Mr Beloff concluded that there was no prospect of a possible lengthy application to European courts delaying the introduction of the tax. The tax would therefore go ahead in Labour's first Budget if the party came to power, and would be applied to all the privatised utilities, the leadership made plain last night. Other privatised industries, such as British Airways, will not be covered.

The Tories and some utility leaders had pinned their hopes on an opinion commissioned by the rightwing think tank, Aims of Industry, which had warned the tax could *generate challenges. That* advice, commissioned from Gerald Barling, QC, an expert in European law, said it was likely that "there will be legal challenges based on respectable grounds" although it did not say they would win.

Under Mr Brown's proposals, Labour will offer every young person a choice of four options instead of benefit:

☐ Employers taking on long-term unemployed under 25 will be offered a £60 a week tax rebate for six months.

☐ Voluntary organisations will be able to pay a weekly wage equivalent to their benefit plus a fixed sum for a year.

☐ Young people without basic qualifications will have the option of studying fulltime on an approved course while keeping their benefit.

☐ They could work on Labour's proposed environmental task force, paid a weekly wage equivalent to their benefit for six months.

Education best remedy for bigotry says Major

The Prime Minister met Britain's Jewish leaders last night and pledged his personal commitment to ending racial intolerance.

Mr Major, who has been wooing the ethnic vote in the run-up to the election, was at a dinner to raise funds for the Board of Deputies of British Jews. He praised the role of the Jewish community but declined to give any commitment on legislation on Holocaust denial amid calls that it be made a criminal offence.

Mr Major, referring to the Holocaust after Tony Blair indicated that a Labour government might be prepared to legislate, said: "Such bigotry is best confronted with calm reason and education."

Pro-Europe cash

The European Movement has secured a £150,000 grant from the European Commission to promote the benefits of EU membership. In a move likely to anger Tory Eurosceptics, the pressure group will launch a campaign to tell voters what they can gain from Europe.

Vetting tightened

MPs have been given details of stricter vetting of private sector applicants for Whitehall posts. They had sought assurances after the departure last year of Chris Green as chief executive of English Heritage amid an investigation into "alleged administrative irregularities".

CJD aid denied

Ilja Andrews, whose mother died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the human equivalent of BSE, abandoned [illegible] claim for compensation from [illegible] Government yesterday after being refused legal [illegible] claimed ministers had [illegible] the public by saying *that* [illegible] was safe to eat.

Relate boycott

Masqood Chawdhery, chairman of the Institute of Islamic Studies in Nottingham, called for a boycott of relationship lessons for the city's teenagers being tried out by Relate. He said: "This is totally offensive. Children should be given advice in their homes."

E.coli fear

A woman aged 83 from Cairnie Lodge, the Arbroath nursing home at the centre of a new *E.coli* outbreak, is desperately ill in hospital. *Two other residents* have died in the outbreak which has affected 22 Arbroath people, 19 connected with the nursing home.

Car kills sisters

Two elderly sisters died in Wolverhampton yesterday after a Porsche mounted the pavement and hit them. The car driver, a youth of 18 from Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, was arrested at the scene and was being interviewed by police. The car was not said to have been stolen.

£32,200 for VC

A Victoria Cross awarded to a Royal Navy petty officer during the First World War sold for £32,200. The medal was awarded to Ernest Petcher for his courage aboard a Q ship — an armed merchant vessel used to lure German U-boats to their destruction.

Row at St Paul's

Continued from page 1

able ability as a soprano singer which made her the *strongest candidate of the 16* who applied. All other candidates were men.

Miss Winkett, who comes from a churchgoing family in Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire and whose fiancé was killed in a climbing accident, is to take up her post from September. Ordained priest six months ago after training at Queen's theological college, Birmingham, she is considered to be one of the most promising of the hundreds of women ordained since Easter 1994. She appeared in the recent BBC documentary *The Calling* about life at a theological college.

Currently serving out her two-year curacy in the Chelmsford diocese, she came to the attention of Dean Moses in his former appointment as Provost of Chelmsford Cathedral. Miss Winkett, who read history at Selwyn College, Cambridge, and studied for a year at the Royal College of Music, is curate at St Michael's, Little Ilford in New*ham, east London, where her* rector, the Rev John Whitwell, said: "She is an outstanding person and an outstanding priest and will go far."

Her appointment to St Paul's marks her as one of the church's rising stars. Should the church ever agree to women bishops, Miss Winkett is certain to be in the running.

Her duties will include helping to order services, dealing with special, one-off services and events, leading the singing at evensong and and serving as chaplain to the choir school. She will regularly take one of the 14 weekly communion service, plus other services.

This will not be the first time a woman has celebrated communion at St Paul's. The cathedral already has two women prebendaries, who are honorary canons, and women priests from the London diocese occasionally preside at a lunchtime communion.

Bounty

Continued from page 1

three Kurdish dissidents and if the verdict, expected soon, directly implicates the Iran*ian Government, the EU poli*cy of "critical dialogue" could become untenable.

That policy was launched at the Edinburgh summit in 1992 when Iran appeared eager to put the Rushdie case behind it and woo the Europeans. Tehran promised not to send any hit squads to kill Mr Rushdie, and offered some countries specific guarantees that no attempt would be made to kill him or his publishers on their territory.

Agreement broke down, however, because Tehran refused to lift the *fatwa*, insisting that a religious edict by Ayatollah Khomeini could not be repealed. Britain believes the "*critical dialogue*" has failed because Iran has not changed its policy in three vital areas: the Rushdie case, human rights and terrorism, and the attempt to acquire nuclear weapons.

Leading article, page 21

MI5 believes Rushdie will never be free from threat

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SALMAN RUSHDIE will never be free of the threat of murder, even if the Iranian Government officially lifts the fatwa issued on February 14, 1989, according to security sources.

The level of threat faced by the author of *The Satanic Verses* is assessed by MI5. He is guarded by Scotland Yard's Special Branch in an operation that has so far cost more than £7 million.

Since the fatwa was declared, there has been a number of statements from leading figures in the Iranian Govern*ment which have appeared to* indicate that Tehran no longer approves of the death sentence. These statements have not altered the view of those responsible for protecting the author that he will always be vulnerable to attack. Rushdie, who cannot stay at one address for long periods, has admitted that the security has become "a nuisance".

The Foreign Office monitors every statement from Iranian leaders to gauge the status of the fatwa. In April 1993 Nateq Nouri, who at the time was Speaker of the Iranian Parliament and is now tipped to be elected President in June, said: "Iran neither had nor has any intention of sending commandos to kill the apostate Salman Rushdie."

This was endorsed by President Rafsanjani later that year in an interview with *Time magazine. In October 1993,* however, Wilhem Nygaard, the Norwegian publisher of *The Satanic Verses*, was wounded by gunfire.

The following year the Iranian Ambassador to Oslo repeated the official policy that commandos would not be sent from Tehran to kill Rushdie, but he added that every Muslim was duty bound to kill the author "whenever and wherever he is able to do so".

The ambassador's remarks appeared in a letter to the Norwegian Foreign Ministry. He was subsequently recalled to Tehran, indicating that he had gone too far.

In April 1995, President Rafsanjani explicitly stated at a news conference in New Delhi that Iran had no intention of sending death squads to kill Rushdie. This was interpreted by some in the *West as a sign that Tehran* was moving towards lifting the fatwa. But the fears of the intelligence services were underlined when the head of the Iranian judiciary said last April that a Muslim would carry out the fatwa "sooner or later".

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Chemists linked to over-prescribing, says report

GPs 'making thousands from illegal drug scam'

By Richard Ford

A THRIVING network of private doctors is making huge *sums of money* by overprescribing illegal drugs to patients who then sell them on the open market, a Home Office study disclosed yesterday.

Some private doctors in London receive an income of more than £100,000 a year by overprescribing or prescribing inappropriate combinations of drugs, including *methadone* and amphetamines.

The report adds: "There are increasing numbers of private *doctors who prescribe to drug* users, and increasingly overt advertising of services. Private prescribers range from highly committed professionals to the venal.

"For a very small *minority* of private doctors, *prescribing* regimes seem to be driven by commercial considerations. Large sums of money are to be *made easily by* issuing repeat prescriptions on a weekly basis to dependent drugs users."

The report, *Tackling Local Drug Markets*, found that some doctors in London charged drug users a £25 weekly consultation fee, which was paid before a prescription was issued. A few doctors' names were regularly mentioned by users and staff working in drug-abuse agencies and two separate sources told the researchers, from the South Bank University, that some doctors had 200 dependent drug users on their lists.

The study said that leakage from the *private prescription* system was the main source of supply of pharmaceutical drugs in the capital. "Several of our respondents were being prescribed more drugs than they needed and were selling the surplus in pharmaceutical markets," it said. "The sales covered the cost of prescriptions and consultancy fees."

The report demands action *to stop* overprescribing, pressure on pharmacies to stop giving credit for controlled-prescription drugs and that pharmacists be encouraged to question customers about prescriptions for large amounts of drugs. It said that unscrupulous doctors were able to deal with high numbers of patients by offering minimum patient care.

Some doctors handed *out* prescriptions without either drug screening or urine tests. The study said that there was a *tendency for doctors* to issue prescriptions of very high levels of drugs including up to ten 50mg methadone ampoules a day.

Most private doctors designated which chemist would *provide their patients with the* methadone or amphetamines and some drug users believed that the doctor and pharmacist worked together in profit-sharing partnerships.

"Whatever the case, specifying the pharmacist gives the doctor added control over the patient," the study added. "Pharmacists often allowed users credit. This enabled the users to collect *half* their prescription, sell it and then pay off the pharmacist and collect the remainder of the prescription.

"We have no doubt whatsoever that this practice occurs on a regular basis in some chemists and that the pharmacists know that some of their prescriptions are being illegal*ly sold*," *it added*.

It also highlighted the operation of introduction fees to private practitioners willing to overprescribe. "In some cases users introduce acquaintances to their doctor, who then pay an introducer's fee, for example by waiving a consultancy fee.

"Others work freelance, col*lecting a commission from* other users for introducing them to a doctor; a common arrangement is for the intro*ducer* to get half the first prescription as commission."

It found that the cost of prescriptions after the payment of the £25 consultancy fee averaged £75 a week and that pharmacists made big *profits through a huge mark*-up in the prescribed drugs.

The study estimated that overall up to 30 million retail deals in illegal drugs take place in London each year with 75 per cent of purchases arranged by telephone.

[illegible]

OXFORD University is in*vestigating claims* that a blackmailer is targeting students by threatening to report them for taking drugs (David Charter writes). One student has handed over £20 to a man who called at his college room and said that he had proof the student smoked cannabis. Students at four *colleges are believed to* have been approached.

Neill Coleman, the Student Union's welfare officer, said: "One person *has handed* money over to my knowledge, but of course there may have been other instances which have gone unreported.

"It would be difficult to believe he does have proof that these people smoke cannabis. *He is* just playing on their fears."

A university spokeswom*an said that its proctors*, the staff who act as its internal police force, were investigating the claims.

PADDY COOK

Shaping up: Cherie Booth's workouts start at 7am and include energetic cycling

Cherie Booth labours at gym

By Emma Wilkins and Alex O'Connell

CHERIE BOOTH, the wife of the Labour leader, has joined a health club that invites its members to "wor*ship at the temple of fitness*".

The Albany Health and Fitness Centre in Regent's Park, London, charges its clients up to £588 annual membership plus a joining fee of £99. The club, which is near the Blair family's home in Islington, offers a range of *treatments* including *cardio*vascular workouts and Iranian dancing classes.

Ms Booth, 43, has already shown a particular interest in the bicycling machine, which she pedals with gusto, according to one member. She arrives at 7am and works out in the gym before taking beauty therapy treatments.

***Her* progress is assessed by a personal trainer, who is monitoring muscle tone, diet and general exercise.**

Queen gives blessing to royal succession debate

By James Landale and Alan Hamilton

THE Queen has given her permission to Lord Archer of Weston-Super-Mare to press ahead with his Bill to end sex discrimination in the laws of *Royal succession. In a written* message read out to the House of Lords, the Queen said she would not let the Royal prerogative "stand in the way" of the measure.

The Succession to the Crown Bill would end the law of royal primogeniture and place a monarch's daughter first in line to the throne if she were the eldest child. At present, the eldest son is automatically heir, even if he has an elder sister. A daughter succeeds only if she has no brothers, and if none of her brothers' descendants are living.

If the Bill became law, it would not have any impact until and if Prince William has children and then only if the first child is a girl.

Buckingham Palace said *last night that the Queen's* consent to Lord Archer's proposal was purely a formality, and as head of state she was bound by convention to allow debate on a constitutional issue. The Palace emphasised that the Queen's signature did not in any way indicate her personal support for, or disapproval of, the measure.

The Queen and her senior *advisers have no objection in* principle to a change in the law of primogeniture affecting the succession to the throne, especially as the issue is likely to remain theoretical until well into the next century. Given the choice, however, the Palace would have preferred the *matter to be raised in a Bill* from the Government rather than a backbencher. They are confident, however, that such a proposal would be likely to reach the statute book only with government support.

After going through the formality of a first reading in two weeks time, the Bill is likely to come up for a substantial debate at second reading in mid-March. However, the measure is unlikely to become law. Not only is there not enough parliamentary time before the election for the Bill to pass through both *Houses, but also many heredi*tary peers see the move as a threat to their own succession laws. The Lords traditionally do not oppose Bills at second reading.

Viscount Ridley, the Lord *Steward* of the Household, announced the Queen's reply at the start of business in the Lords yesterday despite Lord Archer's absence from the chamber. Lord Ridley, elder brother of the late Tory cabinet *minister* Nicholas Ridley, told peers that he had a message from the Queen "signed in her own hand".

It read: "*I have received* your Address and, relying on the wisdom of my Parliament, I desire that my prerogative and interest insofar as they relate to the succession to the Crown should not stand in the way of the consideration by Parliament during the present session of any measure providing for the removal of any distinction between the *sexes* in determining the succession to the Crown."

Lord Archer said that he was delighted. "I am sure it is a popular move," he said. "Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II all rather prove my point."

Archer: delighted with the Queen's reply

Irish to play British anthem before game

By Nicholas Watt, Chief Ireland Correspondent

THE national anthem will *ring out* at Lansdowne Road on Saturday when it is played before the rugby match between England and Ireland for the first time in Dublin since Irish independence in 1922.

The Garda Band will play *God Save the Queen* before the Irish anthem, *Amhran na bhFiann*, or *The Soldier's Song*, which celebrates republican resistance to British rule.

The decision was taken by the Irish Rugby Football Union at the start of this season when it abandoned its policy of playing only *The Soldier's Song* before matches.

The playing of *God Save the Queen* is a highly sensitive issue in Dublin where it was regarded as the anthem of a colonial oppressor by republicans before Southern Ireland gained independence in 1922.

Many nationalists in Northern Ireland also object to it, because Orangemen beat out the anthem on their *pipes and drums during* the loyalist marching season.

Missing prison officer is discovered dead in river

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

A PRISON *officer who* disappeared six *months* after the IRA breakout from the Whitemoor top security jail was found dead in his submerged car yesterday. His widow said she feared he had been murdered.

Police confirmed that a blue Peugeot found in a river known *as Forty* Foot Drain near Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, belonged to Peter Curran. The body had been in the river for some time. The car was discovered only by chance as police officers carried out a search *for stolen vehicles*.

Mr Curran, 38, disappeared in May 1995, two days after being suspended from his job at the jail near March, Cambridgeshire. He had been accused of smuggling toiletries to inmates.

Police in *Cambridgeshire* last night contacted Mr Curran's widow, Christine, *who now* lives in Dorset. The results of a postmortem examination were expected later. Mrs Curran said she suspected that her huband had been murdered.

"I don't believe this was just a road traffic accident," she said. "I find it incredible that of all days to have an accident, it had to be then. I think as I did before that something else was going on here. It is one accident too many." Six months before he went missing, five IRA men and an armed robber broke out of the special secure unit at the jail. *Mr Curran did not* work in the unit. He was last seen when he left his home to play golf.

Mr Curran's disappearance and the death in a car accident of Marcia Whitehurst, 37, a woman officer from the jail, were *linked last month* with allegations that prison officers helped in the escape. That was strongly denied by the Prison Officers' Association. The claims were made by defence counsel Michael Mansfield, QC, after the collapse of a second trial of the men at Woolwich Crown Court.

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Benefits staff too busy to notice they overpaid dole by £28m

By Dominic Kennedy
SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

CIVIL servants were so busy introducing a new benefit for the unemployed that they mistakenly paid £28.5 million too much to recipients of the old benefit.

Sir John Bourn, the Auditor-General, today refuses to approve the books of the National Insurance Fund because so much money has been lost through error and fraud. One in six employers may be avoiding payment of National Insurance on company cars and fuel at a cost of £100 million a year, auditors discovered.

The introduction of the new jobseeker's allowance, which replaced unemployment benefit, backfired on ministers who intended it to save money by reducing claimants' eligibility for benefit from 12 months to six. The National Audit Office discovered that 7p of every £1 of unemployment benefit was wrongly paid in its last year.

Staff failed to weed out thousands of ineligible claims. Errors included a lack of accurate information about why people were unemployed, and mistakes in interpreting National Insurance records. "The main reason for the increase in these types of error in 1995-96 was the reduction in availability of experienced staff arising from the introduction of the jobseeker's allowance," Sir John says.

Inspectors from the Contributions Agency, which runs the National Insurance system, have been trying to increase revenue by targeting businesses which are already making payments, and checking their accounts for errors. Sir John suggests these are mainly minor mistakes, based on miscalculations, and cost only £9.4 million a year. The inspectors would do better to concentrate on finding those employers who pay nothing, he argues.

Incapacity Benefit was introduced in 1995 in the belief that large numbers of fit people were claiming invalidity and sickness payments. Instead of simply proving that they are too ill to perform their own jobs, claimants are now given a stringent medical examination, the "all-work test", to see if they are physically capable of holding down any type of employment.

The Benefits Agency predicted that 200,000 people would lose their entitlement, saving £415 million a year. Instead, only 102,000 of the 435,000 people examined had their claims disallowed, saving £280 million. Unemployment benefit fraud costs a total of £167 million a year. Just over half is lost through individuals claiming money when they are not entitled, and the rest vanishes through the fraudulent encashments of girocheques and order books.

The drive against fraud resulted in the prosecution of 4,900 claimants and 132 colluding employers. People withdrew 88,500 claims after investigations.

Clarke balks at beans as he shops for voters

By Russell Jenkins

THE Chancellor strained to lift a supermarket basket full of groceries for the milling television cameramen watched by bemused shoppers yesterday outside the Asda superstore in the heart of the Wirral South constituency.

The wire baskets, one held by Kenneth Clarke and the other gripped by the Tory candidate Les Byrom, were intended to illustrate how much better off the average family is now compared with 1992. To be exact, a reputed £21 after tax and inflation.

Mr Clarke, who breezed into Merseyside with an equally breezy message about the economy, could not quite stick to the script. He assured pressmen that he did go regularly to the supermarket to do the family shopping "with the missus" but then looked pointedly down at the basket. "As it happens, there is hardly anything in this basket I would eat, except the pineapple," he said with a smile.

The Times asked him whether he knew how much the ordinary-sized can of Heinz baked beans in his basket cost on the supermarket shelves behind him. "Do I look the kind of man who eats baked beans?" he replied, in a neat sidestep. "I am not a baked beans on toast man."

Minutes later, when Mr Clarke was trying to deliver a live interview to an ITN camera by the check-out desks, a scuffle broke out over his shoulder. Conservative Party minders and Asda security staff, in green jumpers and name tags, jumped in when Tony Samuelson, leader of the Against Conservatives Poncing on Tobacco Companies Party, and his wife, Carol, dressed as a giant cigarette stub, tried to muscle in. Mr Samuelson's allegation, that the Conservative Party was in league with tobacco companies, was not a welcome message on the day that Archie Norman, the chairman of Asda, invited the Chancellor on a walkabout in his store on Croft business park. "This is Nazi Germany," yelled Mr Samuelson, a by-election veteran, as he was bundled through the revolving doors.

Earlier Mr Clarke delivered in rapid succession a series of "sound bite" interviews designed to herald the falling unemployment figures, play down his argument with the Bank of England over interest rates, dismiss the fears of Unilever on the single currency and get across the message generally that the economy is in the best shape for a generation. Despite all this, some were finding it tough, he admitted. "The Governor [of the Bank of England] reckons we need a quarter of one per cent more and I do not because it is still quite hard work earning your living in this country in some places." That part of his message struck a chord with many of the shoppers who looked with both bemusement and curiosity at the media circus surrounding the Chancellor.

Leonard Monks, 72, a retired driving instructor, from Bromborough, buttonholed the Chancellor about how the Government intended to help war pensioners. "I wasn't very satisfied with his answer," he said.

The Chancellor found a more sympathetic audience at The Village Hotel, in Bromborough, where he gatecrashed the presentation of an "Investors in People" award to the accountants firm McEwan Wallace. Ian St John, the television football pundit and former Liverpool forward, was among the suited businessmen. "My family has always been Conservative and we were one of the poorest families in Scotland," he said. "I'll probably be voting for Les [Byrom] this time."

ANDREW PRICE

Byrom, left, and Clarke at Asda yesterday. "Do I look like a man who eats baked beans?" the Chancellor asked

Oysters help farmers to clean seas

FARM pollution in the sea may be reduced by a new fertiliser additive based on a compound found in oyster shells. Backers say that it cuts the amount of fertilisers needed on crops, and so reduces the spillage into rivers and seas that can lead to toxic algal blooms.

The polymer, isolated in oyster shells in the 1980s, is said to draw more fertiliser and nutrients towards roots. It is being manufactured commercially from aspartic acid by the Donlar company of Bedford Park, Illinois.

CORRECTION

Margaret Baber, who was awarded £840,000 in the High Court in settlement of a claim for damages after her son suffered brain damage at birth (report, February 11) was booked for a hospital delivery, not a home birth, and spent most of her labour in hospital.

Wild salmon 'being killed by fish farms'

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

FISH farms and North Sea trawlers are being blamed for the decline of wild salmon and sea trout in Britain's rivers. A government-appointed task force has concluded that action is needed to reduce the level of lice infestations on salmon farms to save the wild fish from further collapse.

Experts believe that the lice are contaminating and killing trout and, to a lesser extent, salmon as they migrate down rivers and past farming cages.

The Scottish Salmon Task Force also says urgent research is needed into the extent to which trawlers operating in the North Sea are accidentally catching young salmon migrating to Greenland. Research has found that, contrary to popular myth, salmon smoults migrate as shoals, often from the same river, rather than as single fish, making them more likely to be trapped in nets.

The task force, chaired by Lord Nickson, was set up by Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, in 1995 to try to find ways of halting the decline of Scotland's wild sea trout and salmon stocks. Its conclusions, which have implications for all British salmon and trout rivers, will be announced tomorrow.

A draft report underlines the need for dramatic changes in the way fish farms are run to make them more environmentally-friendly. Several of the recommendations are likely to be opposed by the farmers, who will argue that the costs are too high at a time when the industry is under threat from a highly competitive Norwegian fish farm operation.

A key recommendation is that an independent committee should be set up to oversee salmon farming. The report states: "Levels of sea lice infestation on salmon at fish farms must be reduced."

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Cornish holiday led two spinsters to their isolated but contented new life by wave-washed shores

Sister's death closes a chapter on idyllic isle

By Alan Hamilton

FOR 33 years two spinster sisters lived on their own paradise island half a mile off the Cornish coast, supplied by a weekly boat and with only their cats and dogs and a colony of seabirds for company.

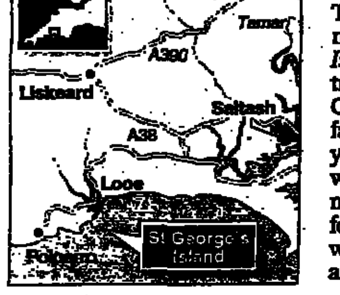
Their idyll ended this week with the death in hospital of Evelyn Atkins, 87, after a fall. Her sister Barbara, in her late 70s, is now the sole resident of St George's Island, a stone's throw yet a world away from the other end of their lifeline, the little harbour at West Looe.

Evelyn, known to everyone as Attie, clung to her island life to the last. After her fall, Babs tried to look after her sister at home but quickly found herself unable to cope. Last Wednesday, on the orders of a visiting doctor and nurse and in spite of her protests, Evelyn was taken off her island for the last time by air ambulance to the Passmore Edwards Hospital at Liskeard. She died there in the early hours of Monday.

Residents of Looe, to whom the sisters were a well-known and cherished couple, said yesterday that Evelyn would have liked to be interred in the earth of her own island, but she will be buried in Looe. Two books written by the sisters chronicling their life on the island still enjoy brisk sales among tourists.

Originally from Epsom Downs, Surrey, they fell in love with St George's, known locally as Looe Island, during a Cornish holiday in the 1960s. When it came on the market in 1963 at £22,000 they bought it. In their books, *We Bought an Island* and *Tales from an Island*, they recalled that the asking price might as well have been £2 million, yet they somehow raised the money.

Evelyn Atkins, left, who died in a Liskeard hospital after a fall, with her sister Barbara in 1995



The sisters acquired 22 acres and a whitewashed, stone-built, three-bedroomed house. The only other buildings on St George's are a cottage in the woods, which the sisters used to let as holiday accommodation, and a half-derelict outhouse which served as a café in the far-off days when St George's was a popular destination for boat trips from Looe.

There they lived in peace and contentment. Babs used to teach needlework at a school in Looe and lived on the island at weekends. After her retirement nearly 20 years ago the sisters rarely left St George's, except for brief, occasional trips to Looe to the dentist or optician. They were never known to take holidays. Friends recalled them as being "like an old married couple, but absolute sweethearts".

Their lifeline was boatman Tony Pengelly's weekly ten-minute voyage in his 18ft *Islander*, keeping up a family tradition of supplying St George's begun by his grandfather and continued by his 21-year-old son Jonathan. He would take them mail, food, newspapers, coal and diesel for their unreliable generator, which powered their lights and their only concessions to modern comfort, a freezer and microwave oven.

The boat was occasionally defeated by weather. One Christmas, stormbound in West Looe, Mr Pengelly contacted a local television company, which flew out the sisters' seasonal provisions by helicopter.

Mr Pengelly's wife Lynda said yesterday that Barbara was in mourning at home with the sisters' dogs Nelson and Lucy for company but was in good health. "We have always spoken to them every day, originally by radio and now by mobile phone. Babs says she would like to stay there while her health is good."

Mrs Pengelly described Evelyn's death as the end of an era. "They just gelled together: both had their strengths, one way or another. One would be forceful and the other would be calm.

"Evelyn did not want to leave the island and Babs did not want her to come off either. They kept saying she would see the doctor tomorrow; it was difficult to persuade them. I don't think Evelyn's death has hit Babs yet. She has so much on her mind, she is being wonderful."

The estate agent Knight Frank estimated yesterday that today the island could fetch £1 million. "People love islands and will pay the earth for them," a spokeswoman said. But there is no question at present of Babs Atkins selling.

APEX

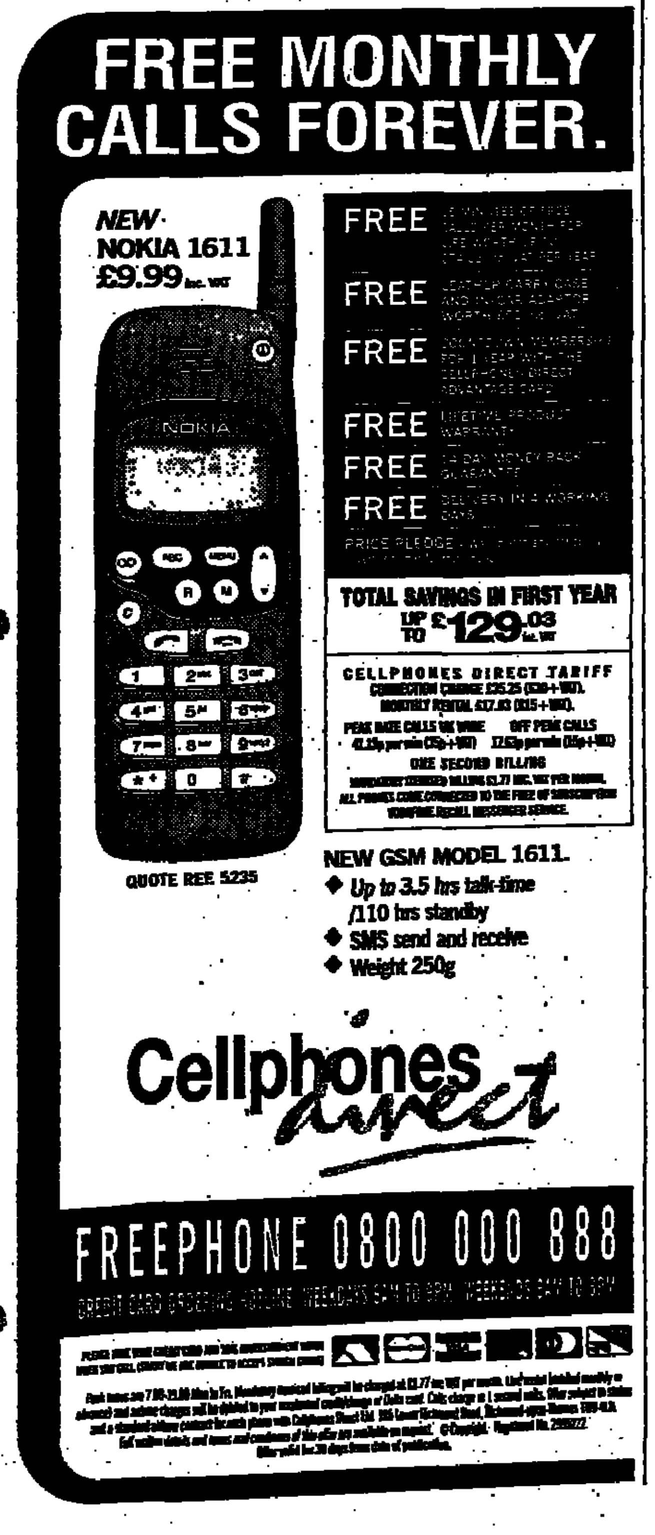
St George's, known locally as Looe Island, was purchased for £22,000 in 1963; it could fetch £1 million now

St Helena's sportsmen hope to go the distance

ONE of the world's most isolated communities, the Atlantic island of St Helena, is receiving financial help from the Channel Islands so that it can take part in this year's Island Games (*Dareh Gregorian writes*).

The host island of Jersey is trying to help to raise £12,000 by April so that St Helena can enter the biennial games. St Helena attended the first games in 1985, when its team took six weeks to travel the 4,500 miles to the Isle of Man, but has not been able send a team since 1987 because of the distance and cost.

The games have become a big sporting occasion, attracting teams from as far afield as the Isle of Wight and the Falklands. St Helena is planning to send a team of four competitors and an official to this year's games, which open on June 28.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SATURDAY

IN THE TIMES

MIA AND ME

"She and I don't see things the same way" Woody Allen answers back in the **Magazine**

BIG LEAGUE

Robert Crampton on the thrill of Sunday League soccer

PLUS

The Directory, Weekend, Car 97, and **1015** for young readers

Howells takes secret of wife's murder with him to prison

By Paul Wilkinson

Howells: maintains he did not know of plot

ROSS PARRY

Eve Howells with her lover, Russell Hirst. Mr Justice Alliott said that whatever her deficiencies as wife and mother, she did not warrant the terrible way she died

THE secret of David Howells's involvement in the murder of his domineering wife Eve by their two schoolboy sons was locked away with him in a life sentence yesterday.

Mr Justice Alliott had adjourned sentence on Tuesday with a request for counsel to seek the "whole truth" from the family, but Howells and his sons Glenn, 17, and John, 16, stuck to their original stories. As the judge jailed Howells and ordered the boys to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure yesterday, he made it clear he believed the father was the "instigator of this appalling crime".

During their month-long trial at Leeds Crown Court, Howells, 48, who was playing darts at the time of the murder in Huddersfield, west Yorkshire, had claimed he was unaware of his sons' plot to kill their mother. Glenn had admitted manslaughter on the grounds of provocation because of her constant emotional abuse. He said he snapped after one particular verbal attack from his mother in August 1995 and struck her repeatedly with a stonemason's hammer. John would admit only that he had disposed of the murder weapon.

Mr Justice Alliott told Howells: "You suborned your sons into doing what they did. Over a period of months, if not years, you so groomed and indoctrinated their young minds so that they did what you wanted.

"There cannot be a much more vile thing than to get your sons to kill their mother unless it is to contemplate cheerfully their long detention while you went free.

"Yours is by far the greatest culpability. Notwithstanding any deficiency in the deceased as a wife and mother, she did nothing to warrant the terrible way she died."

He said the court had been forced to focus on the "stark and admitted fact that an apparently decent boy of 15 struck his defenceless mother with at least a dozen blows with a hammer".

He added: "Another apparently decent boy of 14 was standing by to dispose of the hammer and his brother's bloodstained clothing. You, Glenn, were the actual killer and you, John, had a lesser but crucial role." Earlier Gary Burrell, for Glenn, said: "Glenn Howells still feels that he should carry the full responsibility for what happened ... What is an inescapable conclusion in all this is that both parents carry a very heavy degree of blame for what happened. The reality is that none of us will ever know the whole story."

Simon Hawkesworth, QC, for the father, said he still maintained that he did not know of the plot. "He accepts that he failed to act to prevent this tragedy when he had the power to do so and that in his role as a father he has failed his sons and bears a heavy responsibility."

Aidan Marron, for John, said it was through his father's attitude that the "unthinkable" plot to kill had become established in his mind. Detective Superintendent Gary Haigh, who led the murder inquiry, said after the sentences: "While the boys could not pick their mother, David Howells had options, he could have removed the boys either by leaving or divorce. At the end of the day I believe he thought this was going to be the easy way out."

Snowdon lover took painkiller overdose

By Damian Whitworth

THE former lover of the Earl of Snowdon killed herself with a huge dose of paracetamol because of uncertainty in her personal life, an inquest was told yesterday.

Ann Hills, a freelance journalist, was close to Lord Snowdon for 20 years until her death. He did not attend the 30 minute inquest and was not mentioned. The only member of Mrs Hills's family to attend was her brother, Alan Philipp, a publisher.

Mrs Hills, 55, was found "curled up and dead" by her father, Elliott Philipp, on the roof of her London flat on New Year's Day, Westminster Coroner's Court was told.

Paul Knapman, the Coroner, asked her brother: "Whereas Ann had many friends, perhaps there was a failing to establish a permanent relationship with a male friend which caused her to worry about her future happiness?" Mr Philipp replied: "I believe there was a relationship which may or may not have been ending."

Mrs Hills spent Christmas in Norfolk with her former husband and her sons, returning home to Marylebone on December 30. A friend called police after noticing empty paracetamol wrappers next to wine bottles when she looked through a window.

Police found letters which suggested that Mrs Hills had taken her life. None of the correspondence was read at the inquest. Mrs Hills's body could not be found in the flat so police contacted her father. "He found her curled up and dead behind the chimney on a roof adjacent to the flat," Dr Knapman said.

Iain West, a pathologist, said that paracetamol, alcohol and temazepam, a tranquilliser, had been found in Mrs Hills's blood. "The level of temazepam was within the therapeutic range. The cause of death is paracetamol intoxification," Dr West said.

Recording a verdict of suicide, Dr Knapman said: "There was a moderate amount of alcohol, a moderate amount of temazepam and a lot of paracetamol. It is unusual to die straight away from paracetamol overdose, but it does happen from time to time and this was one of them.

"From the evidence I have seen this was an intended act. It is quite likely this occurred on the spur of the moment. She wasn't happy with her life at the time."

Ann Hills: body found on roof by her father

Faulty jet catapulted RAF pilot to his death

By Russell Jenkins

A TORNADO pilot who survived torture as a prisoner of the Iraqis during the Gulf War was suffering from a severe heart disease when he died in a freak air crash, an inquest was told yesterday.

Flight Lieutenant Simon Burgess, 28, was the youngest pilot to be shot down during the conflict six years ago. He endured 41 days in captivity after his aircraft came down over Baghdad a week after fighting began.

He was killed last February when his aircraft went out of control while taking off from RAF Valley on Anglesey. His Hawk trainer jet flipped over and the ejector seat catapulted him on to the runway. The accident was blamed on mechanical failure. A post-mortem examination revealed that he was suffering from a severe coronary disease.

Dr Anthony Caslin, the pathologist, said the pilot had died instantly from multiple injuries as a result of ejecting seven seconds after becoming airborne. He had not had a heart attack.

Stuart Culling, a senior air accident inspector from Farnborough, told the hearing in Llandudno, North Wales, that a rod leading to the ailerons had been disconnected. This would not have been apparent to the pilot.

Flight Lieutenant Burgess, from Humberston, near Grimsby, had passed all the regular physical examinations for flying. He was involved in training instructors at RAF Valley. Dewi Pritchard-Jones, the Coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Bishop's shunted car chases chariot of ire

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

A BISHOP was involved in a high speed car chase to catch a lorry that had almost driven him off the road.

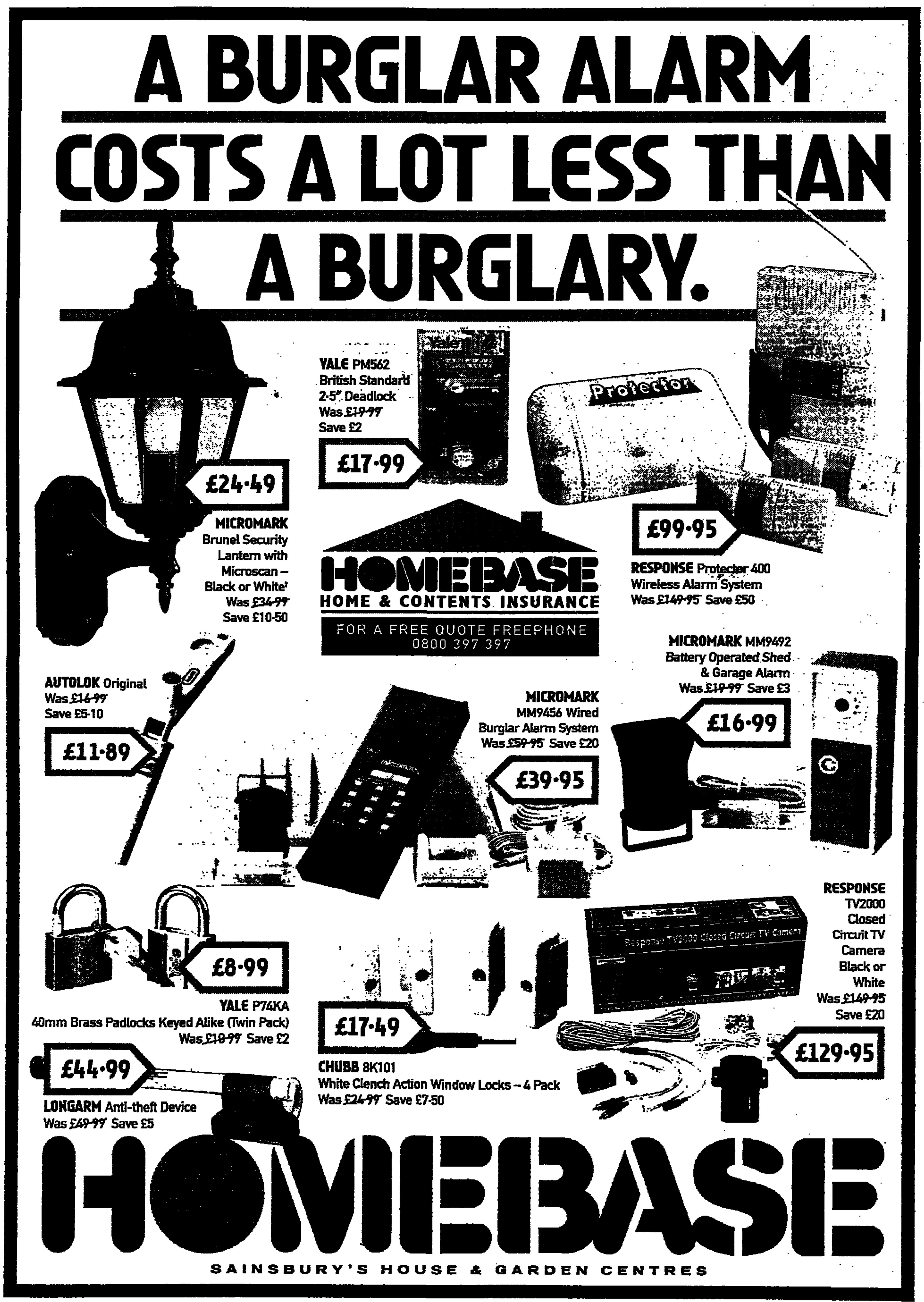
The Right Rev David Konstant, Roman Catholic Bishop of Leeds, was on his way to visit a hospital and school in Tamil Nadu, 150 miles from Madras, when his car was shunted by a lorry whose driver became enraged because he thought the bishop's chauffeur was not driving fast enough.

When the chauffeur tried to check the lorry driver's insurance details, he drove off. The bishop's car pursued the lorry down lanes and through paddy fields, finally forcing him to stop before they reached the hospital.

Bishop Konstant, who was unhurt, said: "Imagine Boadicea in her chariot with the knives on the wheels: the bolts on the lorry's nearside front wheel were very proud of the vehicle. The driver was apparently oblivious of the chaos he was causing."

The car's passenger door was badly damaged by the lorry, which hit it repeatedly next to where Father Andrew Summersgill, the bishop's secretary, was sitting. He said: "The lorry was trying to push us off the road, not because of who we were but because we were going slower than he was.

"We chased the lorry driver along these terribly bumpy potholed roads. The bishop and I weren't frightened. It was actually quite exciting."



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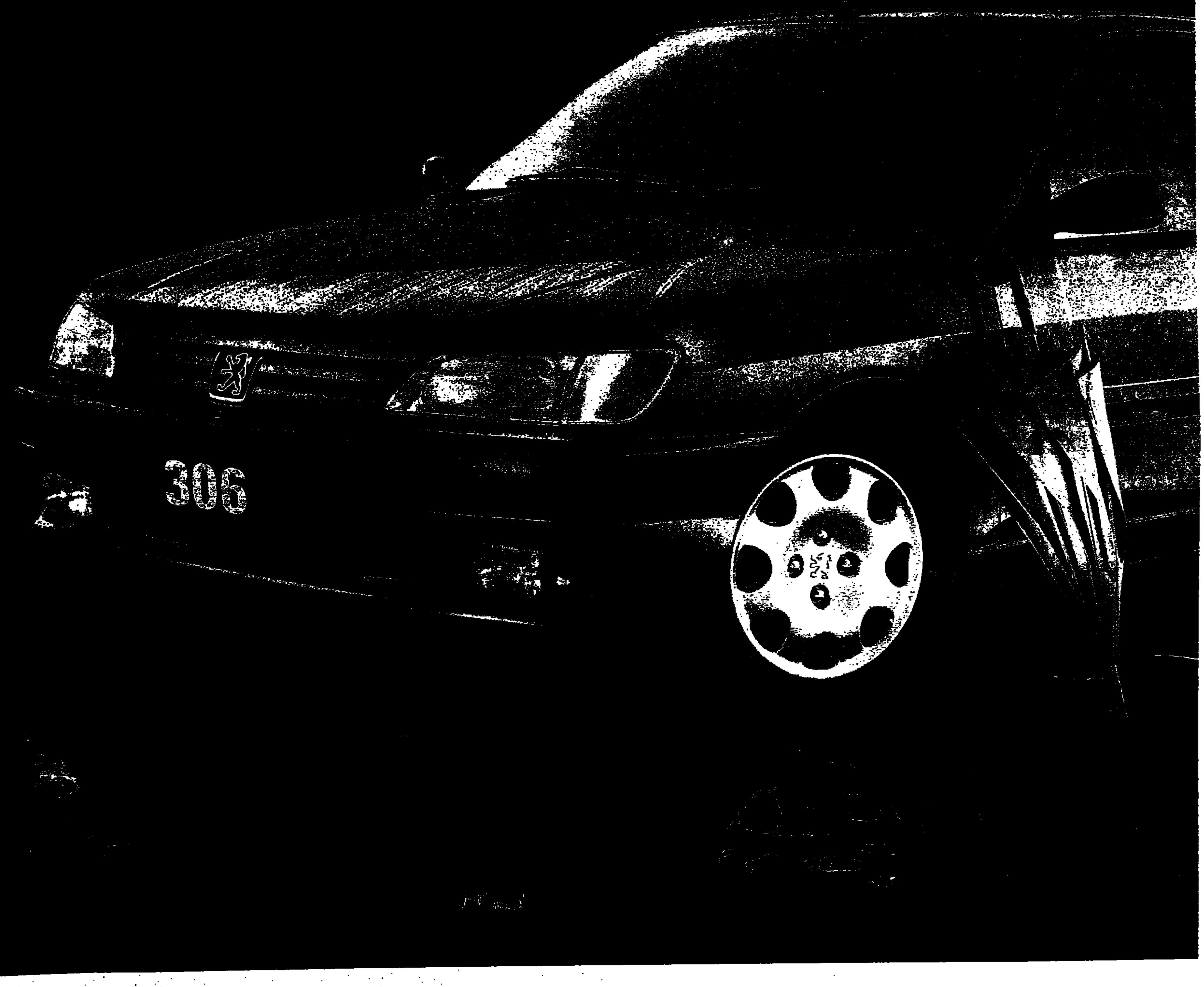

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Boat comes in for ferryman who found sculpture

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

A FERRYMAN is expected to make tens of thousands of pounds from his discovery of a Roman sculpture of a lioness which archaeologists said yesterday was the best example of its type ever found in Scotland.

Robert Graham, 36, noticed the sculpture in the waters of the River Almond which runs through Cramond, on the outskirts of Edinburgh. The lioness's nose was inches from the steps of his ferry.

At low tide, he tried to dig the object out of the water. When he realised how heavy it was, he alerted archaeologists, who have dated it to the second to third century AD.

Mr Graham is now likely to receive the full market value of the sculpture from the Treasure Trove Panel which will decide its worth in a few months' time. None of the archaeologists involved in the restoration was willing to put a figure on the lioness but it is believed to be worth tens of thousands. Mr Graham said that the sculpture had overturned his whole life: "I'm still in terror of the sculpture. I still cannot believe the interest, especially from America. Friends of mine were in Kenya and said I was on the main news.

"I would like some extra cash like anyone else but I am not interested in it. It is the fact I found it. I have always been interested in history. I prefer the past to the future."

Yesterday the cleaned lioness, which is devouring the head of a screaming, bearded man, was shown to the press. It will take a further six months to restore fully but has already revealed more clues about the tomb it guarded.

Fraser Hunter, archaeologist with the National Museums of Scotland, said the first surprise came when conservationists cleaned the stone. "It went from a fairly horrible muddy brown colour to off-white. It would have been a very arresting sight."

The sculpture is made of white sandstone but its provenance is unknown. There is a source near Alloa, in Stirlingshire, 35 miles away but it could just as easily have come from somewhere in England.

As they were cleaning the lioness the archaeologists found two 1ft snakes on the base of the plinth. "Snakes were looked upon more favourably in Roman times and often symbolised the spirit or the soul," Mr Hunter said. "Some of the mystic religions use them as symbols of rebirth because they shed their skins."

The discovery has convinced archaeologists that the sculpture was part of the tomb of a high-ranking official, possibly the commanding officer of a Roman fort at Cramond. It is likely to have been one of a pair or even one of four. Mr Hunter is optimistic that funds will be found for further excavations in the area.

"It is broken and several small pieces are missing but it is remarkably unweathered," he said. "It has been beautifully made. The anatomical detail is incredible. The muscle structure of the back and even the dewclaw of the lioness can be clearly seen. This is the kind of thing you dream about as an archaeologist. I feel immensely privileged to be working on this amazing beast.

"It has probably been carved at the fort at Cramond by one of the auxiliaries stationed there. They came from Gaul, Holland and North Africa as well as being recruited locally. In British terms, the quality of the artistry is very high. It has Celtic elements to it. It is not a purely classical piece carved by an Italian who was totally familiar with Roman art but the artist was very accomplished."

The sculpture will now be wahsed in baths of tap water and de-ionised water to remove the salt. It will take several months to dry and, after conservation work is finished at the National Museum's Granton Centre in Edinburgh, the Treasure Trove Panel will decide where to display it.

Mr Graham is unlikely to get his reward until all the conservation work is finished. The Crown will pay him at the expense of the museum which gets the sculpture.

MIKE WILKINSON

Theo Skinner, a conservator, keeping the statue damp yesterday to prevent it from drying out too quickly

Peace in battle for Pict war memorial

A BATTLE for possession of a Pictish relic has been settled after 25 years. The 1,300-year-old Dunnichen Stone, which marks victory over the English at the Battle of Nechtansmere, was yesterday returned to Angus.

The sandstone relic, which is 5ft high, 2ft wide and weighs about a tonne, was given to the McManus Gallery in Dundee for safekeeping at local government reorganisation in 1971.

Since then Angus Council, controlled by the Scottish National Party, has urged the Labour-controlled Dundee City Council to return it.

Angus had to make do with a glass fibre replica until Dundee agreed to return it on a long-term loan. The real stone will not, however, return to its original location at Dunnichen Hill because of fears about its condition. It will be shown at the Meffan Institute in nearby Forfar.

Drivers on phone four times more likely to crash

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent

DRIVERS who use car phones while at the wheel are four times more likely to have an accident, research has shown. Hand-free phones are no safer than hand-held units. The risk is highest up to ten minutes after making or receiving a call, probably because the driver's attention is distracted.

The study of 699 car phone users who were involved in collisions is the first direct evidence that the phones add to driving hazards and is likely to increase pressure for restrictions. Laws against using hand-held telephones while driving operate in Switzerland, Israel, two Australian states and Brazil.

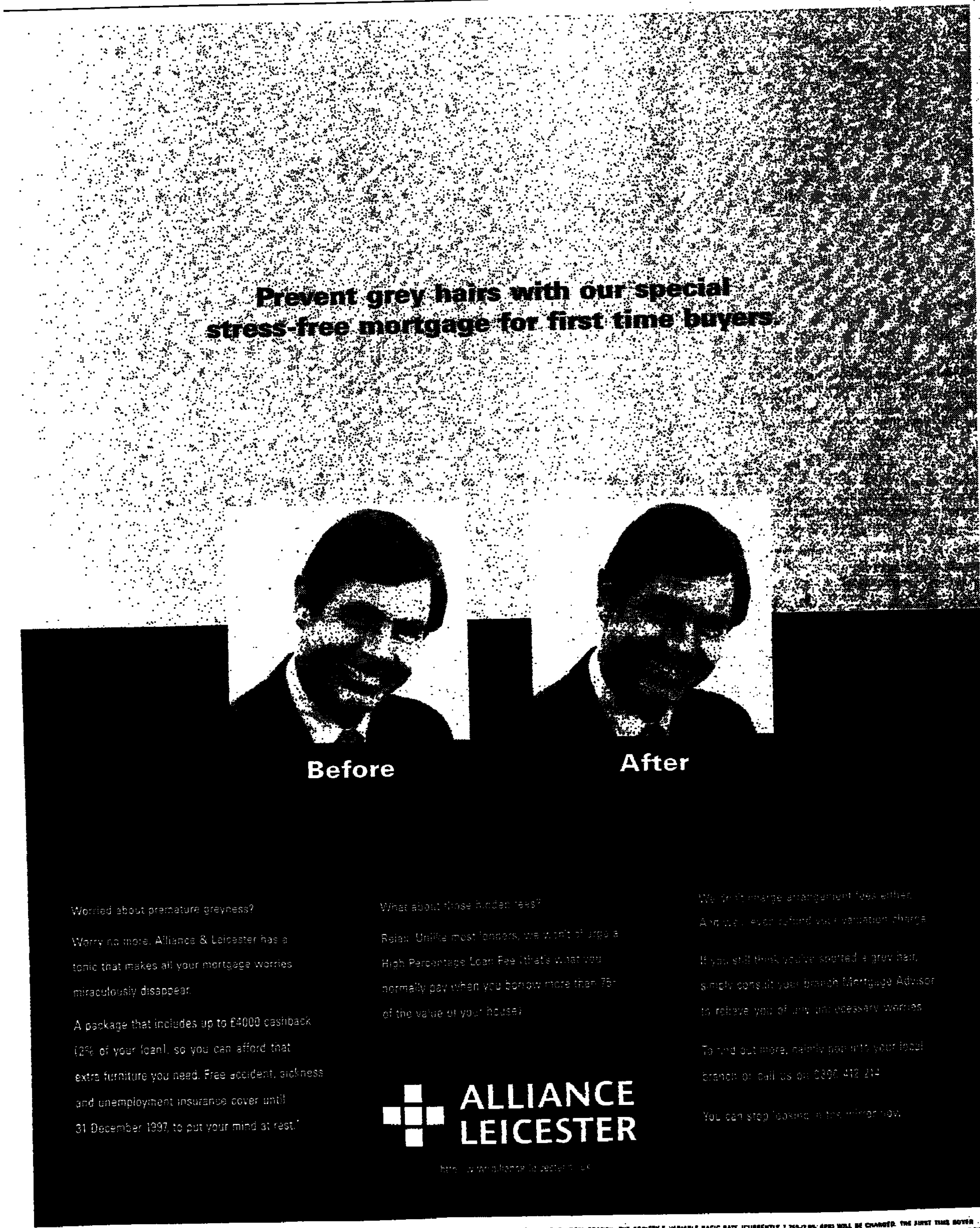
Although there is no law in Britain specifically against using a car phone while driving, the Highway Code recommends that drivers pull over. Drivers who do not may be prosecuted for driving without due care and attention.

The researchers from Toronto University, Canada, selected drivers with car phones from among almost 6,000 involved in collisions in Toronto over 14 months from July 1994 to August 1995. Only those who had bills to show how much they had used their phone on the day of the collision and during the previous week were included.

By comparing the use of the phone around the time of the accident with its use at other times, the researchers were able to estimate the increase in risk. The results showed that the risk of an accident was between 3.0 and 6.5 times higher within ten minutes after a call began as when the phone was not used.

The researchers, whose findings are published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, say the extra hazard is similar to that of driving after drinking with a blood alcohol level at the legal limit. Other studies have shown that telephone conversations can reduce reaction times by half a second or more. Steering was also made more imprecise.

A spokesman for Cellnet, one of Britain's big mobile phone network providers, said fewer than one million of the 6.9 million mobile phone users in Britain had units in their cars. "We advise people to invest in a hands-free car kit because they can then carry on a conversation over the phone as they would with a passenger. We don't draw a distinction between the two."



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Tip-off gave 4 names for murder of black student

By Michael Horsnell

POLICE received an anonymous tip-off naming four white youths for the murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence within 48 hours of his stabbing, it emerged yesterday.

Detective Chief Inspector John Carnt, who took charge of the investigation two years after it happened, told the resumed inquest at Southwark Coroner's Court that officers were told by telephone that they would find a knife in a bin in a pub car park.

"An officer searched the bin but found nothing," Mr Carnt said. "But upon his return he found a letter which had been attached to the rear windscreen of his car. It was an anonymous note."

The coroner, Sir Montague Levine, ordered that the four names, which were given to the jury, could not be published. Police held back for another day before visiting the suspects' addresses on the grounds that it was only anonymous information.

Nothing came of the information, though the four names were frequently put forward by other people in the area in the following days. The disclosure came as police were accused by Michael Mansfield, QC, counsel for the Lawrence family, of launching a murder inquiry "remiss in the extreme".

Detective Inspector Philip Jeynes admitted to Mr Mansfield that he had failed to make use of local police intelligence sources that might have quickly identified the killers. Intelligence collated at Plumstead police station, on individuals capable of unprovoked racist attacks, was locked away in an office and unavailable at night.

He said he did not know that there were families under investigation for racial attacks in the area where Stephen's unsolved murder was committed in 1993. Two specialist officers who dealt in racial harassment in the area — in which three murders had been committed in the previous two years — were not on duty and were not contacted.

He could not recall asking any other officer to make inquiries in the road in Eltham, southeast London, along which the gang of youths allegedly fled.

He declined to accept that if it had been a police officer who had been killed, he would have sought immediate intelligence from Scotland Yard. Asked by Mr Mansfield if he had contacted Scotland Yard, Mr Jeynes said: "I had other things to do."

Mr Mansfield: "I suggest that was remiss in the extreme in not getting information that night." The officer replied: "That is your opinion, sir."

Mr Mansfield put it to him that what he should have done after obtaining local intelligence was to have visited families who were under investigation for racial attacks. The officer said: "That was a possibility."

He accepted that no house, nor group, nor individual had been put under surveillance.

Earlier a white man, known only as B for security reasons, told the inquest jury that he had a fleeting glimpse from the top of a double-decker bus of four white youths running away shortly after the murder. B, who initially lied to police because he feared recriminations, said that more than six months after the stabbing he contacted detectives to tell them the truth.

He said he thought he recognised Jamie Acourt and David Norris, who he knew, but accepted that the first of the two men might have been Mr Acourt's elder brother, Neil. Neil Acourt, 21, Luke Knight, 20, and Gary Dobson, 21, were acquitted of murder at the Old Bailey last April when it was ruled that identification evidence from Mr Brooks was unsafe. Charges against Jamie Acourt, 19, and David Norris, 20, were dropped at committal proceedings.

The inquest continues.

ROBIN MAYES

Search for meaning: a visitor examines the finished work on the Chisenhale Gallery floor. It will be washed away after the exhibition

The art gallery with ants in its paints

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

AN ABSTRACT work of art created by ants during a walk sponsored by the taxpayer was unveiled yesterday on the floor of a London gallery. It was meant to symbolise social controls in society but the miniature artists could not comment.

They had spent six days being followed by a Japanese artist, crouched on all fours, who marked their squiggly routes on an area of 8 square metres. A video recorded the creative process.

Yukinori Yanagi flew from New York to create *Wandering Position*. Reactions from visitors to the Chisenhale Gallery in east London were mixed. Two girls had found it almost impossible to contain their laughter inside and felt a sense of release as they emerged giggling into the real world.

Victoria Roland, from Argentina, said: "It was difficult to keep a straight face. I don't know the meaning. I suppose it's hard work to follow an ant. The only thing to say about it is the artist's patience. Maybe because he's Oriental he has a lot of peace."

Ron Pike, a London cab driver, was more forceful: "What a great waste of money. Completely pointless. Who writes the cheques for their grants? Some of these artists have a laugh at our expense. A bit crazy or what?"

However, a woman art lover, who asked not to be named, said: "A human mind could never have made this happen without it being laboured."

Describing the creation as a work of beauty, she wondered whether any of the ants were aware of being pursued: "How aware is it of this thing behind it? I suppose he's got used to it, and thinks 'stupid bugger'."

Mr Yanagi worked with about half a dozen ants, using one at a time, tracking them with a piece of crimson chalk. The common yellow meadow ants — like those found in any back garden — remain in three plastic containers and may be rewarded with a release into the community.

Mr Yanagi, 37, said he had expected the work to take much longer. He had worked for up to eight hours a day, sometimes late into the night. The ants were on more flexible shifts lasting just a few hours. Any discomfort he suffered for art's sake was relieved, he said, by concentrating on the intricate job.

There were occasionally frustrations. "All the time, they were going down the cracks. I had to wait for them to get out. Sometimes, they stopped moving. Basically, they never stopped. They are almost like a machine, not like a human being." Sometimes they earned themselves a piece of cookie, "but if you gave too much, it's a small animal and would slow down".

Judith Nesbitt, director of the Chisenhale — whose annual public funding includes £63,500 from the London Arts Board and £9,744 from Tower Hamlets — said that her fears that ants were sleepy at this time of year were unfounded. She ensured that the gallery was specially heated to keep them happy while they were working. "We expect artists to be cold, but not ants."

The art work will be washed away after the exhibition ends on March 23, but the video will remain as documentation.

Portrait of the artist at work: an ant has its route tracked by Yukinori Yanagi

Jet exhaust 'harmful to ozone layer'

High-flying aircraft, such as Concorde and those on long-haul flights, may be causing far more damage to the Earth's ozone layer than had been thought. Scientists have found that exhaust fumes from aircraft at high altitudes produce sulphur trioxide. Under certain conditions it can act as magnet, accelerating the destruction of ozone by man-made pollutants such as aerosols, fire retardants and other chlorofluorocarbons.

Death arrest

A 59-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the death of four-year-old James Ward, who was found with severe head injuries behind a block of flats on the Castlemilk estate, Glasgow, on Tuesday. The man is due to appear in court today.

Murder charge

A French national appeared in court yesterday charged with attempting to murder Father Edward Carroll, 63, a Catholic priest, who is critically ill after being stabbed in the back at his church in Holloway, north London. Nicholas Top, 27, was remanded in custody.

School stalker

A stalker has grabbed at a young girl and followed at least five others in Hull over the past two weeks. The 12-year-old girl fought off the man, who disguises himself with sunglasses and a scarf, near a school on the Bransholme estate.

Order of merit

Jackie Mudd, 51, is the toast of the Middleton Arms in Leeds, where she has worked as a barmaid for four years, after receiving a best barmaid award from the brewers Tetley for being able to remember the names and usual drinks of 1,500 regulars.

The great escape

A ferret that escaped from a garden hutch in Retford, Nottinghamshire, has been found a fortnight later and 20 miles away at Swallownest, near Rotherham, having cross dozens of main roads, a canal and two motorways. It is now in a brick hutch.

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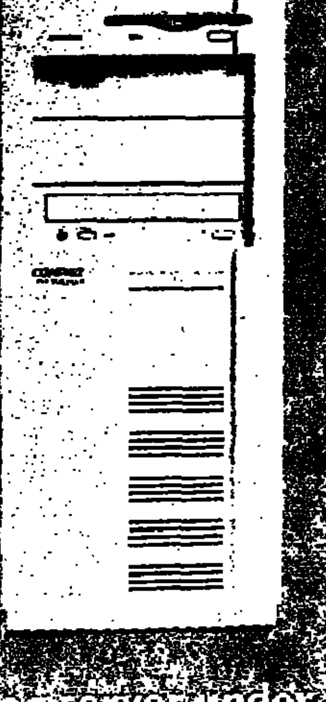

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Prices at £6,000 a bottle as millionaire composer clears out wine cellar 'good enough for Bacchus'

LLoyd Webber's £2m show stoppers

Lloyd Webber: passion

By Alan Hamilton

THE latest show for Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber began to reveal its list of star names yesterday after decades in creation. This time the composer has not written a bar. He is auctioning his wine cellar.

Sir Andrew, ennobled in the New Year Honours, is the owner of no ordinary cellar. Sotheby's, which will conduct the £2 million sale, said that it comprised 18,000 bottles of the world's most desirable vintages. The 48-year-old king of the musical has been interested in wine since teenage years. He has not turned teetotal, nor is he in need of realising his assets. He simply has too many wines — enough for five lifetimes, according to the auction house. He will keep back more than enough to toast his successes.

Serena Sutcliffe, head of Sotheby's International wine department, said: "I have never seen such a galactic collection. If Bacchus had a cellar, this would be it. In terms of quality, choice and quantity, it represents the wine lover's dream. Virtually every bottle falls into the category of the world's most desirable wine."

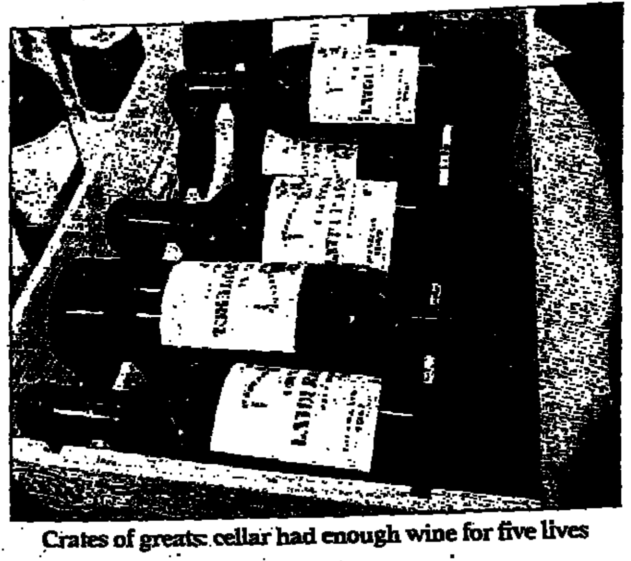
The collection, essentially French, is kept at Sydmonton Court, his Berkshire home, and in the south of France. Among items he has decided to part with are champagnes from Krug, Dom Perignon and Bollinger, ten cases of Chateau Latour 1982, 24 cases of Margaux 1982, 10 bottles of 1945 Chateau Lafite, and six extremely rare bottles of Margaux dating from 1900. The pre-sale estimate for the last-mentioned is £6,000 per bottle.

Miss Sutcliffe said: "He is equally passionate about both Bordeaux and Burgundy. Wines which are luscious and opulent hold particular appeal to him, such as those from the fabled Domaine de la Romanée-Conti.

"His cellar comprises the best of Bordeaux with the full range of top Classified Growths, from the First downwards." The sale also includes superb Rhône, top vintage port, Alsace and renowned Australian Grange examples.

Sir Andrew has done much unloading of his fortune recently. He has put his six-bedroomed London townhouse in Eaton Square on the market at £15 million, and earlier this week donated a Bentley car to a fundraising auction at the Conservative Party winter ball.

But at the same time, he has decided to postpone the Broadway launch of his new £6 million musical, *Whistle Down The Wind*.



Crates of greats: cellar had enough wine for five lives

How a young stranger developed a taste for seductive vintages of success

By Jane MacQuitty
Wine Correspondent

WHEN a hirsute Andrew Lloyd Webber first ventured into wine sales at Christie's, he was an unlikely looking buyer in his early twenties. Michael Broadbent, the head of wine department, ignored all his paper-waving attempts to bid because he doubted his company would receive the money.

The newcomer introduced himself later and the two men developed a close friendship that lasted almost three decades. Many of the composer's purchases were made at Christie's. His selection of Sotheby's to sell his collection has triggered a brouhaha in the cut-throat auction business.

Christie's, where Mr Broadbent has retired, is the traditional outlet for fine wines and the company is "sore and surprised". Paul Bowker, the current head of its wine department, said ruefully yesterday: "This is not something we fought for and lost. We were simply never offered it."

Sotheby's says that it will be the greatest single wine collection ever at auction, although in June 1994 Christie's handled the sale of the private cellar of the wine collector Remington Norman. That fetched £1.5 million then and would easily top £3 million today. Sir Andrew's collection is full of a rich man's fancies with all the obvious classic chateaux and vintages included. There is little evidence of any exercise of personal judgment or connoisseurship. This is an investor's collection of labels, rather than a drinker's collection of favourite bottles. Wines were bought on Sir Andrew's behalf, principally by his adviser and friend, David Mason of the art dealers MacConnal-Mason.

A list of 21 wines disclosed by the auction house yesterday suggests there are not going to be any bargains. The lowest estimate in the list is for Chateau Climens 1949, a Barsac, at £100 a bottle. The highest is for Chateau Latour à Pomerol at £20,000 a case. The cellar also includes rarities such as magnums of Chateau Pétrus 1947, Chateau Lafite, 1945, Chateau Margaux 1900 and Chateau Cheval Blanc, 1947.

Likely buyers will be traditionalists who have an insatiable thirst for classics. The great 1947 Chateau Cheval Blanc is a good example of Sir Andrew's palate, a top drawer St Emilion from Bordeaux's right bank and the star of this vintage. The 1982 Cheval Blanc is in the same league, a great wine from a great year, its perfumed, seductive *cabernet franc* dominated fruit, well to the fore.

The 1900 Chateau Margaux is first growth claret of its renowned vintage but all any drinker is likely to be opening up is costly red wine vinegar.

Sir Andrew is clearly impressed by overtly luscious and opulent wines, which explains the presence of 1947 Latour à Pomerol, a great claret year but not in this case the wine of the vintage. That title goes to Pétrus 1947, also included.

The sale is on May 20 and 21. Catalogues listing wines and tastings will be available in April.

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Hawking loses black hole bet 'on technicality'

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

PROFESSOR Stephen Hawking has paid up on a bet he made six years ago with two fellow physicists. He bet Dr John Preskill and Dr Kip Thorne of California Institute of Technology that "naked singularities" — exotic objects believed to lurk in the centre of black holes — could not exist.

On a visit to Caltech from Cambridge University last week, Professor Hawking conceded defeat. No money changed hands, he said, but he did present the two winners with a T-shirt reading "Nature Abhors A Naked Singularity".

"I wasn't careful enough about the wording," Professor Hawking admitted yesterday, "and I lost on a technicality. I paid with a T-shirt which they didn't dare wear because it wasn't politically correct."

A singularity is a point at which the normal rules of physics cease to function. At a singularity, space and time are infinitely distorted, matter is infinitely dense and the effects of gravity are governed by the laws of quantum physics. Singularities are believed to exist in the centre of black holes, where they cannot be seen because they hide behind the black hole's "event horizon" — the point beyond which nothing can be seen because gravity becomes so strong that it prevents anything, even light, from escaping. A naked singularity would be without its black hole covering and therefore visible.

Dr Preskill and Dr Thorne won the bet on the strength of supercomputer calculations by Dr Matthew Choptuik of the University of Texas in Austin. He concluded that there could be special circumstances in which a naked singularity might be created from a collapsing black hole. The chance of that happening would be comparable to standing a pencil upright on its sharpened tip — improbable, yet theoretically possible.

Hawking: paid up over "naked singularities"

☐ Astronomers using the Hubble space telescope say new evidence of a huge black hole at the heart of a nearby galaxy, Messier 32, makes it more likely that the mysterious objects are a common feature of the universe.

☐ Nasa scientists will present new evidence next month at a conference in Houston, Texas, that life evolved on Mars. They have found thin films of material on samples from a meteorite believed to have originated on Mars similar to "biofilms" made by bacteria on Earth.

Skylark is still flying high after 40 years

By Nigel Hawkes

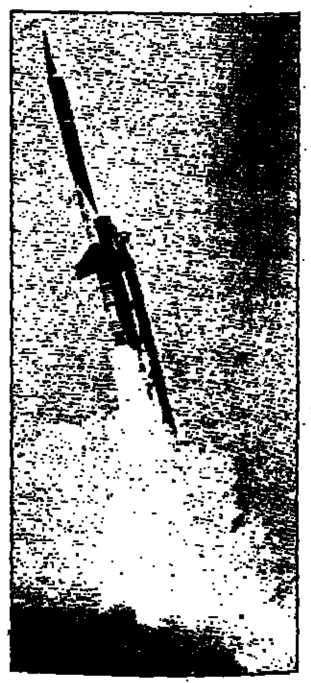
BRITAIN'S Skylark rocket is celebrating its fortieth birthday today. Although no match for Saturn V, which took astronauts to the Moon, Skylark has proved longer-lived. It has completed 432 launches with a 99 per cent success rate, sending small payloads to the edge of space.

Skylark's first flight was on February 13, 1957, at Woomera in the Australian desert. That was eight months before the Russians launched Sputnik as the first man-made object to orbit the Earth.

Forty years on, Skylark is designed and built at Filton, Bristol, by Matra Marconi Space, successor company to the space systems division of British Aerospace. It has an impressive record of launches in eight countries, including early trials at Aberporth, Dyfed. Each flight now carries an average of ten on-board experiments, mostly for the European Space Agency.

Scientists view the solid-fuel Skylark as an effective and affordable platform for a wide variety of space experiments. It is routinely used for projects involving micro-gravity and as a test-bed for future satellite missions.

On-board experiments have included crystal growth, biochemical reactions, atmospheric testing and remote-sensing projects. Each launch programme can cost about £2 million and provide between six and twenty minutes of very low gravity for experiment.



Skylark launching at the Aberporth range

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Lawrence's university forgives its son and lover

BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

D. H. LAWRENCE has finally been welcomed back into the university which disowned its most famous student after he eloped with his professor's wife.

An extensive archive of manuscripts, rare editions and letters, acknowledged to be the world's finest private collection of Lawrence material, has been bequeathed to Nottingham University. The collection, numbering 1,400 items and thought to be worth £1.5 million, was built up by George Lazarus, a gold-share dealer who made a fortune in the family firm, Lazarus Brothers.

His gift completes the reconciliation between the author and the city he famously dismissed as "that dismal town". It is now certain to become one of the world's leading centres for Lawrence studies.

Among the collection are previously unpublished letters which disclose that Nottingham's prodigal son was coy even with his family about the contents of his most notorious novel, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. In 1928 he tried to steer his sister Emily away from reading the copy he felt duty-bound to send her from his home in Italy. "I would not bother to read it, you will find it rather heavy," he wrote, adding that if she left it with the pages uncut "it would be more valuable".

Lawrence and his wife Frieda. Their affair — she was the wife of his former tutor at the time — outraged academics at Nottingham and turned them against him

His words proved prophetic. Lawrence's popularity, together with the auction-room price of first editions, soared after the sensational obscenity trial over *Lady Chatterley's Lover* 30 years after his death. Although scholars believe Emily took his advice, her daughter split the pages and read the book from cover to cover.

Many of the letters in the collection were written after Lawrence's death by Frieda Weekley, née von Richthofen, the "strikingly beautiful" German who became his wife in 1914.

Lawrence decided to leave for Germany in 1912 after quitting teaching, the career he had prepared for at what was then University College, Nottingham, from 1906-08. He arranged to meet his former tutor, Ernest Weekley, professor of modern languages, who was to provide him with contacts on the Continent. But Lawrence began a scandalous liaison with the professor's wife that rocked the college.

He was for years a *persona non grata* among Nottingham academics who stayed fiercely loyal to Weekley. In return, Lawrence was none too complimentary about the university. In the poem *Nottingham's New University*, he wrote disparagingly of the project for a seat of learning funded by the millionaire founder of Boots, the chemist:

In Nottingham, that dismal town / where I went to school and college, / they've built a new university / for a new dispensation of knowledge.
Built it most grand and cakeily / out of the noble loot / derived from shrewd cash-chemistry / by good Sir Jesse Boot.

He was even less complimentary about Englishmen in general after deciding to quit the country. He wrote: "Curse the blasted, jelly-boned swines, the slimy, the belly-wriggling invertebrates, the miserable sodding rotters, the flaming sods, the snivelling, dribbling, dithering pulse-less lot that make up England today."

Frieda's letters document her battle with Lawrence's brother, George, for possession of his entire estate, rather than a half share. She won in 1932.

John Worthen, professor of Lawrence studies and head of the English department at Nottingham, said the highlight of the archive was the manuscript for *The White Peacock*, the author's first novel. Drafted while he was an undergraduate, 629 of the 798 pages are in Lawrence's hand.

Professor Worthen said: "This is the real gem because all the other manuscripts of his novels are in America, so we are extremely pleased to have it here."

Include is a rare copy of at least one novel on blue paper. Lawrence, forced to publish in Italy by his prosecution for obscenity over *The Rainbow* in 1915, had the first two copies of every work published in this way, one for himself, the other for Frieda.

Professor Worthen added: "The George Lazarus collection is on a magnificent scale and utterly transforms the research value of our holdings. It is particularly appropriate that these materials are now in Nottingham."

WH Smith swaps porn magazines for sandwiches

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

W. H. SMITH is to stop selling pornographic magazines in its high street branches. Britain's biggest chain of newsagents is to remove the four soft-porn titles that it stocks in the 450 stores. *Playboy*, *Mayfair*, *Penthouse* and *For Women* will continue to be available in the company's 100 airport and station shops and by special order.

Anti-pornography campaigners claimed a victory, but the company said that the decision was based on sales rather than morals. Better-selling magazines will take the place of the four publications. The change was announced alongside another innovation: the chain will sell sandwiches and snacks for a trial period in selected shops.

W. H. Smith said yesterday that it regularly deleted magazines from its list to keep the total number of stocked publications to about 1,500. The number of soft-porn titles available in the shops has gradually declined. The remaining four are among 269 periodicals to be removed from the shelves.

"New publications are coming out all the time and every so often we have a review and take some out," a spokeswoman said. "If it was in response to campaigners we would have removed them from all our stores but the magazines will still be available for order and at our airport and station stores, where they continue to sell well and where there is much higher male traffic."

The Campaign Against Pornography, whose members have removed magazines from stores and chained themselves to shelves, said: "We feel it is a great triumph. We believe the magazines are not selling because men are now embarrassed to go into high street stores for them."

But a spokeswoman for the campaign said that the company was still heavily involved in pornography: "W. H. Smith is the biggest distributor of pornography through local newsagents, so we have a lot of work to do."

Carl Snitcher, chief executive of Paul Raymond Organisation, publisher of *Mayfair*, said: "This decision had been coming for some time because, to be frank, the proportion of our sales in W. H. Smith's high street stores has been dropping for years. It could be because Smith's is seen as general retail store more than a newsagent's these days."

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Lib Dems backtrack on bonus for elderly

By Polly Newton
Political Reporter

THE Liberal Democrats denied having a commitment to increasing Christmas bonuses for pensioners yesterday after their social security spokeswoman announced that it was party policy.

Liz Lynne said: "The miserly £10 Christmas bonus is an insult which we want to redress by paying a double pension in the first week of December." She said the cost would be £580 million.

But party officials were quick to point out that bonus increase was a "long-term aim", not a commitment for the next Parliament, and would cost only £440 million. One said: "It is policy to do this, but when it comes to the manifesto policy will have to be prioritised very ruthlessly."

The confusion overshadowed the launch of the party's Fair Deal for Older People programme.

☐ A Labour government would establish low-cost "stakeholder pension" schemes, run by financial services companies in partnership with organisations such as trade unions, Harriet Harman, Labour's social security spokeswoman, said.

Howard and Straw accused of rushing new bugging law

By James Landale and Polly Newton

MICHAEL HOWARD and Jack Straw were accused yesterday of rushing the Government's new police bugging laws through Parliament in an authoritarian manner.

Backbenchers on all sides of the House said that the Police Bill raised such grave constitutional matters that its detailed committee stage should be considered by all MPs on the floor of the Commons. They told the Home Secretary and his Labour counterpart that a small committee comprising a handful of MPs could not adedquately scrutinise such an important Bill.

The Bill, which came up for its second reading in the Commons yesterday, will allow the police to bug private property in the fight against serious crime.

However, the measure suffered several defeats in the House of Lords when Labour and many crossbench peers voiced concerns at the civil liberties implications of police being able to bug without prior judicial approval. Under the original draft of the Bill, any decisions to mount an intrusive surveillance operation would have been reviewed retrospectively.

Mr Howard was forced to make several concessions, accepting that a senior judge, known as a commissioner, must give prior approval before the police bug private homes, offices, hotel bedrooms and doctors, lawyers and journalists, except in urgent cases.

However, Nicholas Budgen (C, Wolverhampton South West) said that many MPs still had deep concerns about how this prior approval would be given. "Would it not be better to have a debate on the floor of the House rather than have the suspicion that this is being bashed through in a rather authoritarian way?"

He was backed by Richard Shepherd (C, Aldridge Brownhills), who insisted that constitutional matters were traditionally discussed in a committee of all MPs. Both the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, and David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, also voiced their support for dealing with the Bill on the floor of the Commons.

But Mr Howard brushed aside the demands, saying that MPs would have ample chance to debate the Bill in detail during its report stage. He insisted that no consitutional issues were at stake because chief constables had authorised bugging operations for many years with "responsibility and restraint" to tackle major drug traffickers, kidnappers, terrorists and major fraudsters. The Bill was simply putting this power on a statutory footing.

Mr Howard said: "This is an important Bill. It will make life very much harder for major criminals. That's what the public wants to see; that's what the whole House wants to see; that's what this Bill achieves."

Mr Straw said that serious crime was on the increase and the police should be given tougher powers to combat it. "I wish for the world of Dixon of Dock Green but, if that world ever existed, it has for sure now been and gone."

He said that the police should be given powers to bug private property in pursuit of serious crime, but added: "There is always the potential for such powers to be abused. Effective control checks must be in place to ensure that this does not happen."

As a result of Mr Howard's concessions, the Bill now has Labour's full support and is likely to become law before the general election.

However, the Liberal Democrats oppose it because they believe that prior authorisation should be given by a circuit judge, rather than a commissioner. Alan Beith, the party's home affairs spokesman, said he could not support the agreement struck by Labour and the Tories to ensure that the Bill would receive a second reading. "The deal will not do," he said.

Mr Beith did not believe that Mr Howard could give assurances on behalf of every police force that a code of practice would be observed. There should be a much stricter definition of the circumstances in which the police would be allowed to bug without prior authorisation.

Mr Budgen said it was vital that the Bill undergo further scrutiny on the floor of the House because Labour had not opposed it properly. "Labour have become more authoritarian than the Tories. If the Tories are in favour of kicking a beggar once, Labour is in favour of kicking a beggar twice. The official Opposition has not done its job at all on this Bill."

'NIFTY MICK' HOWARD CAUGHT IN MIDST OF AN INSIDE JOB

Howarth in line for Welsh seat

By Jill Sherman
Chief Political Correspondent

THE Labour MP for Newport East, Roy Hughes, announced yesterday that is standing down, prompting a flurry of speculation about whether the Tory defector Alan Howarth would replace him.

Mr Howarth is still looking for a seat to fight at the general election. Mr Hughes, 71, has been MP for Newport since 1996 and has a majority of 9,899.

Labour's national by-election panel will either impose a shortlist for Newport East, as there is no time for the full selection to take place, or will wait until the general election is called, after which the selection procedure can be bypassed and a candidate imposed.

The by-election panel meets on Monday to draw up a shortlist for Don Valley, the seat vacated by the death of Martin Redmond last month. But it will also discuss whether to draw up a shortlist for Newport East and whether Mr Howarth, or Bryan Davies, who is higher education spokesman and the only frontbencher still without a seat, should be on it.

Mr Davies, whose Oldham Central and Royton seat disappears under boundary changes, is far more popular within the party but if Mr Howarth, MP for Stratford upon Avon, does not find a seat, it will be highly embarrassing for Tony Blair.

One possibility is that Derek Foster, former Chief Whip and now the Shadow Public Service Minister, might step down to allow Mr Blair to impose Mr Howarth as the candidate for his Bishop Auckland seat. Mr Foster has been promised a Cabinet post but Mr Blair could send him to the Lords and still honour the pledge.

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: Treasury questions; questions to the Prime Minister; Companies Act (Directors' Report) (Statement of Payment Practice) Regulations; debate on House of Commons Disqualification Act; backbench debate on Welwyn Hatfield Council's dispute with Slough Estates; in the Lords: Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill, committee; Overseas Domestic Workers (Protection) Bill, committee; Crime (Sentences) Bill, committee; debate on impact of wind farms on rural environment.

Tories' economic argument is falling on deaf ears

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Tories are having the better of the pre-election argument over the economy, but it may not do them much good electorally. This is not just a matter of statistics — the rise in living standards, the further sharp fall in unemployment and the relatively low level of inflation (despite the differences over interest rate policy between Kenneth Clarke and the Bank of England which I discussed yesterday). The Tories are right about the conditions needed to create and sustain competitiveness, but this is an elusive concept for most voters. I haven't heard many people talking about "the enterprise centre of Europe" recently, even in Conservative Central Office.

Britain is well placed by comparison with the rest of Europe on labour market reform, de-regulation and non-wage costs. William Waldegrave made a strong case in a speech to the Social Market Foundation (SMF) on Monday that the more flexible Anglo-Saxon approach to the labour market is better for creating jobs and reducing unemployment than the less flexible European social model.

Yet claims by ministers that the rest of Europe is moving slowly in our direction on labour market reform undermines some of the Tories' warnings about the dangers of the social chapter. If other countries no longer favour the extensive intervention and requirements on business advocated in the past, then the social chapter looks more of a paper tiger.

Both parties are trying to have the best of both worlds on the social chapter: the Tories by treating it as a dangerous iceberg, and Labour by presenting it as a non-threatening symbol of decency. But signing up to the social chapter would remove Britain's power of choice since decisions would be taken by qualified majority voting. Tony Blair is relying heavily on the good intentions of other countries.

Mr Blair has, of course, embraced globalisation. He listens to business, as he showed in his response to the thoughtful recent book from the Institute of Public Policy Reseach. Mr Blair is the friend of the multinationals. Microsoft has replaced, or at least complemented, Methodism in Labour's pantheon. But is Labour willing to do what is necessary to secure competitiveness? This is much broader than just the social chapter and embraces deregulation and privatisation — which Mr Clarke on Tuesday described as "a litmus test of whether you seriously support free enterprise".

My hunch is that most voters probably accept the case for freer markets and for privatisation (after the event anyway). What concerns them is the uncertainty and insecurity created by globalisation. Labour has been making much of this. Indeed as unemployment has fallen, insecurity has become the club to beat the Government. But as a new SMF research paper from David Smith has shown, insecurity is much exaggerated in practice. Average job tenure has not fallen dramatically; temporary work is much less in Britain than in much of Europe, and is rising only slowly; and the British Social Attitudes survey has found "no evidence of substantial job insecurity". In part, the reported phenomenon may be linked with the service industry redundancies of the early 1990s and negative equity in the housing market.

Nevertheless, the Tories have so far failed to articulate the link between competitiveness and personal security. Talking about Asian tigers convinces few voters. The Tory message that economic efficiency creates social cohesion sounds abtract and arid. The Labour alternative that social cohesion is a precondition for economic success sounds more appealing. Labour has strong arguments on the need to do more to address long-term unemployment, to improve skills and the infrastructure. The Tories have a solid case, but is anyone listening?

PETER RIDDELL

Ministers face defeat on crime Bill

By Frances Gibb
and Richard Ford

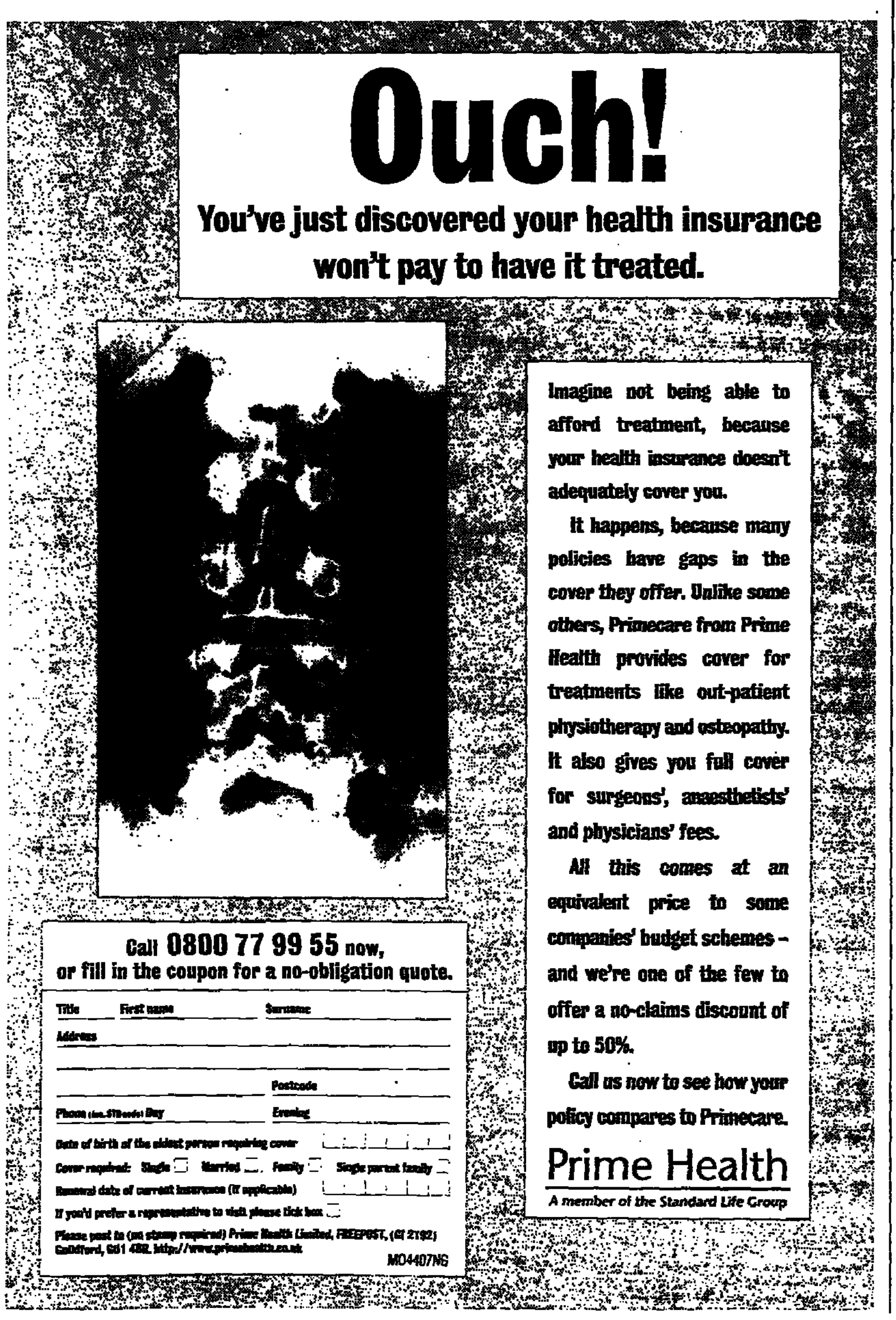
THE Government is braced for a defeat today when the Lord Chief Justice leads an all-party alliance of peers against Michael Howard's plans for tougher sentencing.

Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, and his predecessor, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, are expected to join with peers in backing a move to restore judges' sentencing discretion under the Crime (Sentences) Bill.

At defeat will put the future of the Bill in doubt because of the shortage of time left before the election. The Bill will have to return to the Commons, go back to the Lords then return to the Commons before becoming law.

The Bill proposes automatic life sentences for repeat serious sexual and violent offenders, a seven-year minimum sentence for persistent dealing in hard drugs and three-year minimum sentences for persistent burglars.

Today peers will vote on two amendments that would enable judges to take into account the circumstances of the offence and the offender, and to vary a minimum sentence if they consider it to be "unjust".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Triumphal art of France's history cossetted in concealed splendour at Palace of Versailles

French demand to see hidden riches of Citizen King

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

BEHIND the gilded and locked doors of Louis XIV's palace at Versailles lies a huge, splendid and embarrassing "secret" — 8,000 paintings and 2,000 statues, one of Europe's greatest art collections, have remained closed to the public for nearly two decades through lack of funds.

More than three million tourists visit Versailles every year to marvel at the celebrated Hall of Mirrors and the sumptuous royal rooms, but what they cannot see is the "Museum of the History of France", the array of artworks assembled in the 19th century by Louis-Philippe, France's "Citizen King", and arranged in 125 closed galleries.

The collection, which includes works by Delacroix, David and Vigée Lebrun, is closed because the State claims it cannot afford the 200 additional security guards needed. Now a campaign, led by *Le Figaro*, has been launched to force the Government to reopen the museum. "The largest history museum in the world is to be found at Versailles," the newspaper declared. "Yet it is forbidden to the public."

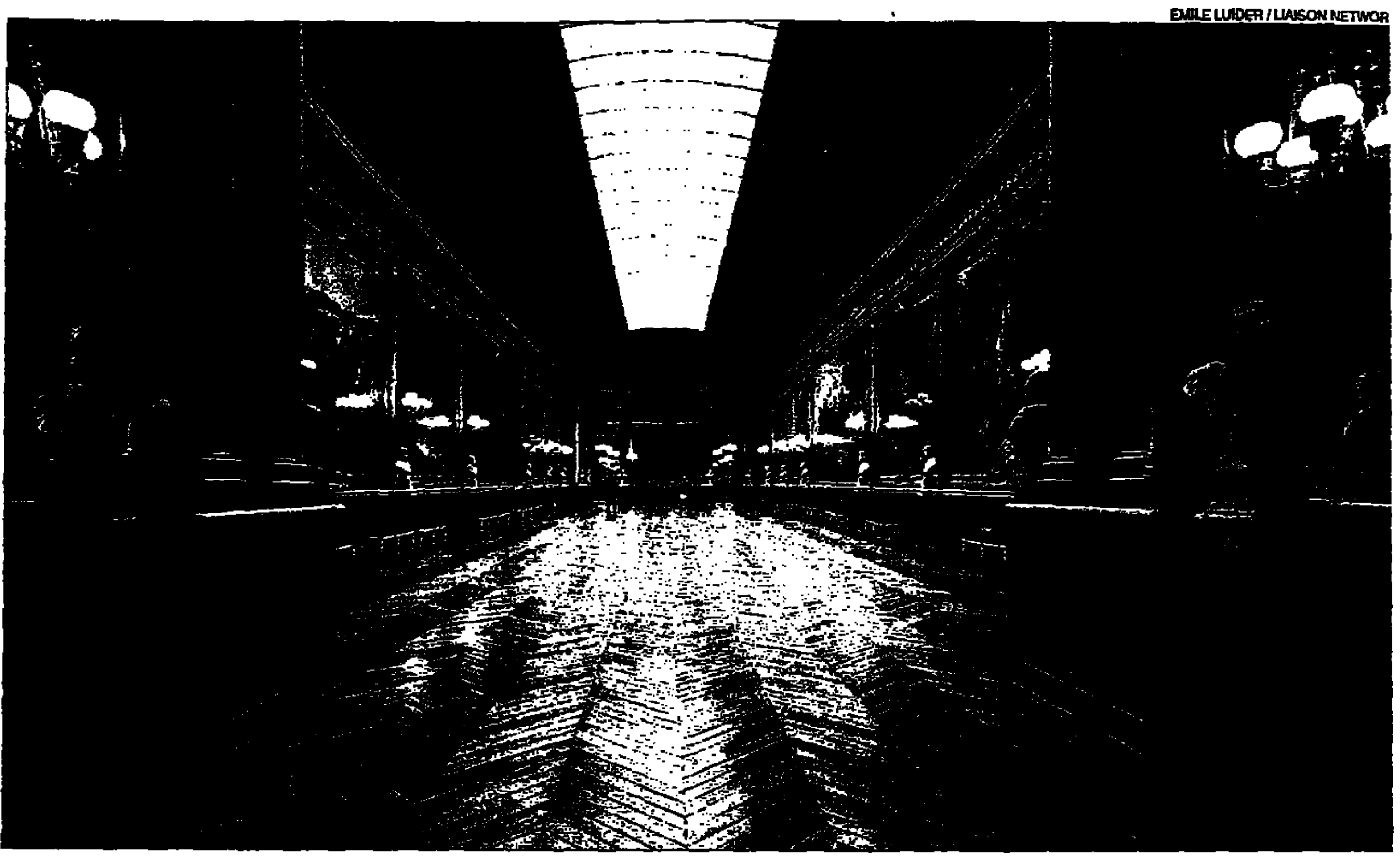
The fabulous Hall of Battles, lined with paintings celebrating French feats of arms from 496 to 1809, has occasionally been open to the public, but the other galleries devoted to important episodes in French history are permanently closed. As critics have pointed out, the State spends millions every year heating the 125 rooms, polishing the gleaming parquet floors and maintaining the paintings, to be admired only by a skeleton security staff and a handful of selected scholars.

Louis-Philippe: spent fortune on collection

"At a time when we are spending Fr700 million (£76 million) on the Pompidou Centre ... could one not also rehabilitate the only museum wholly devoted to our history?" François Hauter wrote. The cost of reopening the museum would not exceed Fr50 million a year, he said.

King Louis-Philippe spent much of his personal fortune commissioning about 3,000 paintings to represent "all the glories of France" in a museum intended to reflect national reconciliation. The museum opened in June 1837, and at one stage attracted 12,000 visitors a day. "The success of Versailles continues to be prodigious," the king observed. "It is not only Parisians who go ... but also peasants." The king was deposed in 1848 and by the end of the last century the museum was firmly out of fashion. Its doors were last opened to the public in 1978, but then immediately closed again when Breton nationalists detonated a bomb. The galleries, hailed by Victor Hugo as "this magnificent book which is the history of France within the magnificent binding that is Versailles", have been under lock and key since.

EMILE LUIDER / LIAISON NETWOR



Kept but rarely seen: the Hall of Battles, dedicated to celebrating French military success, opens occasionally while other galleries stay shut

The dispute over the museum's future has taken on political overtones. Built as the Sun King's fortress, a stunning visual expression of absolute monarchy where Louis XIV installed his court in 1682, Versailles has always been a focus of popular protest. It was to Versailles that the revolutionary mob marched to extract the doomed Louis XVI. The discovery that a museum intended for the people is off-limits to all but a few has struck a chord when many French voters are increasing alienated from what is seen as an elitist and distant Government.

"Would this Greater Versailles not allow the French people to view their future with more serenity, by rediscovering their communal past?" wondered M Hauter.

Art experts agree that the collection is eclectic, ranging from acknowleged masterpieces to some low-grade commissioned works, but most agree it provides a unique historical testament that deserves a wider audience. Under mounting pressure, the directors of Versailles are now considering a plan to reopen the Hall of Battles, as well as galleries devoted to the 17th and 18th centuries.

"Louis-Philippe wanted an ecumenical museum. This idea must not be forgotten," Hubert Austier, the president of the Versailles administration, said last week.

Tourism to Versailles has been dropping in recent years, and a massive administrative overhaul is under way to re-establish the château as a key national attraction. The campaigners predict that the Culture Ministry will soon agree to pay for the extra guards, thus allowing the Government to claim credit for historical sensitivity. Versailles may be facing the sort of economic considerations that never troubled Louis XIV, but it has lost none of its political and symbolic power.

Pretoria links officer to prison gun siege

Johannesburg: An investigation was ordered last night to find out if firearms, used by prisoners in a siege at a South African jail in which five people were held hostage for 40 hours, were supplied by a warder (Ray Kennedy writes).

Officials of the Department of Correctional Services said that the involvement of a warder in the siege at the maximum security wing of St Alban's prison in Port Elizabeth could not be ruled out. A task force which was sent from Pretoria stormed the block shortly after 3am yesterday and freed the hostages, two warders, two electricians and a woman prison hospital worker.

Strike closes Acropolis

Athens: Hundreds of tourists found the Acropolis barred by locked gates as guards joined other Culture Ministry employees striking for higher pay (John Carr writes). Greece's national archaeological museum stayed open, but most outdoor archaeological sites were shut, disrupting classical coach tours. All such tours feature a climb to the Acropolis, which has been closed by strikes several times in recent years. The employees' union said that museum guards were poorly paid and accused the Government of neglecting security.

El Loco to fight on in exile

Abdala Bucarám, the Ecuadorean President who was sacked by Congress on the ground of "mental incapacity" last week, left the country yesterday in a private jet, saying that he would launch a "campaign in exile" to regain power (Gabriella Gamini writes). "My country has been taken over by a dictatorship," said Señor Bucarám, self-styled *El Loco* (*the madman*). Meanwhile, Fabián Alarcón, the former congressional Speaker, was sworn in as interim President, pledging to restore Ecuador's dignity and respect.

Riot over work permits

Freetown: Sierra Leone police opened fire in the capital to quell a riot by hundreds of youths who stormed the main post office, accusing officials of dumping American visa applications in the sea. Red Cross workers said eight people received bullet wounds. Post office officials denied destroying the visa applications, which were part of an annual lottery organised by the United States to give a limited number of would-be migrants a work permit. *(Reuter)*

Tax fraud charges dropped

Mexico City: An appeal court judge has ordered prosecutors to drop tax evasion charges against a brother of Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the former President, for lack of evidence. Raúl Salinas has been in a maximum security jail since February 1995, awaiting trial on charges of tax fraud and illicit enrichment. He is also accused of masterminding the 1994 murder of a former brother-in-law. *(AP)*

Swiss set up Holocaust fund

Berne: The Swiss Government agreed yesterday to create immediately a fund to help victims of the Holocaust, Flavio Cotti, the Foreign Minister, said. The Cabinet was still considering Jewish groups' demands for compensation for what they allege was Swiss profiteering from the Second World War. *(Reuter)*

Letters, page 21

Women 'not legal currency'

Port Moresby: The use of women as compensation payments by Papua New Guinea tribes must be dropped, a judge said. He ruled against a tribe which gave Miriam Willingal, 18, a second woman, money and pigs to a tribe as compensation for an incident in which a man was shot dead. *(Reuter)*

Chechnya President pledges 'freedom'

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

ASLAN MASKHADOV, the newly elected President of Chechnya, formally took office at an inauguration ceremony in Grozny yesterday and pledged to make the breakaway republic's independence a reality after nearly two years of war with Moscow.

Russian television carried pictures of the ceremony showing the commander, 45, who had swapped his customary fatigues for a dark suit, taking the oath of office.

With his right hand placed on a copy of the Koran, Mr Maskhadov swore to defend the constitution, laws and freedom of the Chechen state. "Now it is the duty of each and every one of us to realise the expectations of our ancestors, our heroes fallen in the holy war, of the right to live freely and independently," he is reported to have told a hall packed with military and political figures, religious leaders and relatives of fighters who were killed.

The ceremony was attended by Ivan Rybkin, the Secretary of the Russian Security Council, representing President Yeltsin. General Aleksandr Lebed, who as Mr Rybkin's predecessor led the Russian side during last year's peace negotiations, was also there.

Russia has threatened to break diplomatic ties with any country recognising an independent Chechnya. So far none has. Representatives from Latvia, Lithuania and Ukraine were prevented from attending the ceremony.

Maskhadov: took oath to defend new state

Child clothes link to Dutroux

FROM REUTER IN BRUSSELS

INVESTIGATORS into Belgium's child rape and murder scandal have found items that they believe belonged to eight missing children in searches of houses linked to chief suspect Marc Dutroux, a gendarmerie spokeswoman confirmed yesterday.

Media reports said investigators had recovered nearly 4,500 items of clothing, toys and jewellery during their searches of houses connected to Dutroux, a convicted child rapist, around the central city of Charleroi. They had also collected 20,000 hairs.

Dutroux, who has admitted murdering Bernard Weinstein, a former accomplice, has also been charged with the murder of two girls as well as kidnapping, paedophile sex, rape and illegal imprisonment. A source close to the investigation said that the items of clothing had been tentatively identified, using a new technique, as having been worn by the eight children on the days that they disappeared. The identification involves cross-matching types, colours, sizes and, where possible, labels with the descriptions given by the parents.

If the tests are positively confirmed, it will be the first time a direct link has been established between Dutroux and other missing children.

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Gaullists panic as Front calls for immigrant tax

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

THE bitter race relations row in France deepened yesterday with the far Right calling for a tax on companies employing foreign workers and a demand by film directors for a rebellion against stringent anti-immigration laws.

Bruno Mégret, the deputy leader of the far-right National Front whose wife was elected Mayor of the southern town of Vitrolles last weekend, said his party aimed to force the repatriation of Arabs, Asians and Africans by loading taxes on companies that employ immigrants.

The Front wanted to send foreigners "back to where they came from ... not because we hate them, but because they pollute the national identity and take our jobs", M Mégret, the man widely seen as heir-apparent to Jean-Marie Le Pen, the party leader, told *The New York Times*.

"When we have power, we will organise their return. We will stop renewing their residence cards, and we will force companies to pay a tax on foreign workers that will eventually lead to foreigners losing their positions," he said.

At the opposite end of the political spectrum, a group of top film-makers, including the award-winning directors, Bertrand Tavernier and Matthieu Kassowitz, defied existing legislation that requires French citizens to report the arrival and departure of foreigners without residency permits who stay in their homes. Critics say the law is reminiscent of Vichy legislation, requiring people to report on each other.

DEMAIN EN FRANCE
BON JOUR... JE VOUDRAIS UNE AUTORISATION DE PARLER À UN ETRANGER!
COMBIEN DE PHRASES?

Satire on race law in *Le Canard Enchaîné*

In a statement published in *Le Monde*, the 59 directors challenged the Government to prosecute them for breaking the law and urged their fellow-citizens to ignore "this inhuman legislation ... we are guilty, every one of us, of putting up illegal foreign residents ... we ask to be investigated and put on trial", the statement said.

Le Canard Enchaîné, the satirical weekly, yesterday lampooned the anti-immigration law with a cartoon depicting "The France of Tomorrow". "Hello, I would like authorisation to speak to a foreigner," a man asks a stamp-wielding government bureaucrat. "How many phrases?" comes the reply.

The decisive Front victory in Vitrolles, which gave the far-right party control over a fourth southern town, has severely embarrassed the mainstream parties while adding fuel to the blazing debate over immigration policy. Faced with the growing strength of the Front, the centre-right Government has recently clamped down on immigration, and a Bill outlining even tougher legislation is now under debate in the National Assembly.

A survey commissioned by the Government this week showed that the Front could win sufficent votes to go through to the second round in as many as 200 of France's 577 constituencies in next year's parliamentary election.

Faced by the mounting threat from the far Right, allies of Charles Pasqua, the former Interior Minister, are considering the launch of a new political movement which they say would embrace the nationalism of de Gaulle without adopting the racism and xenophobia of the far Right.

"The only reference that people relate to is their country, their motherland," said William Abitbol, an aide to M Pasqua. "If no one else can provide those answers then the National Front is inevitably going to gain power."

OLEG POPOV / REUTER

Albanian opposition leaders watch as policemen prevent them from leaving their party building in Tirana

Police chief sacked as Vlore protesters take over streets

From Richard Owen in Tirana

THE Albanian authorities called off a move to declare a state of emergency in the port of Vlore yesterday, fearing it would provoke further bloodshed after a series of deaths in clashes between protesters and riot police. Instead the Government of President Berisha dismissed the local police chief and appealed for dialogue.

But Vlore, on the Adriatic coast, remained a town out of control, with police — brought in in force over the past two days to crush the revolt — melting into the background. The streets were in the hands of tens of thousands of triumphant protesters, with even the central police station abandoned.

Spearheading the national mood, the demonstrators in Vlore are demanding not only the return of money lost in pyramid savings schemes but also the resignation of the man whom they hold responsible for the financial disaster: President Berisha.

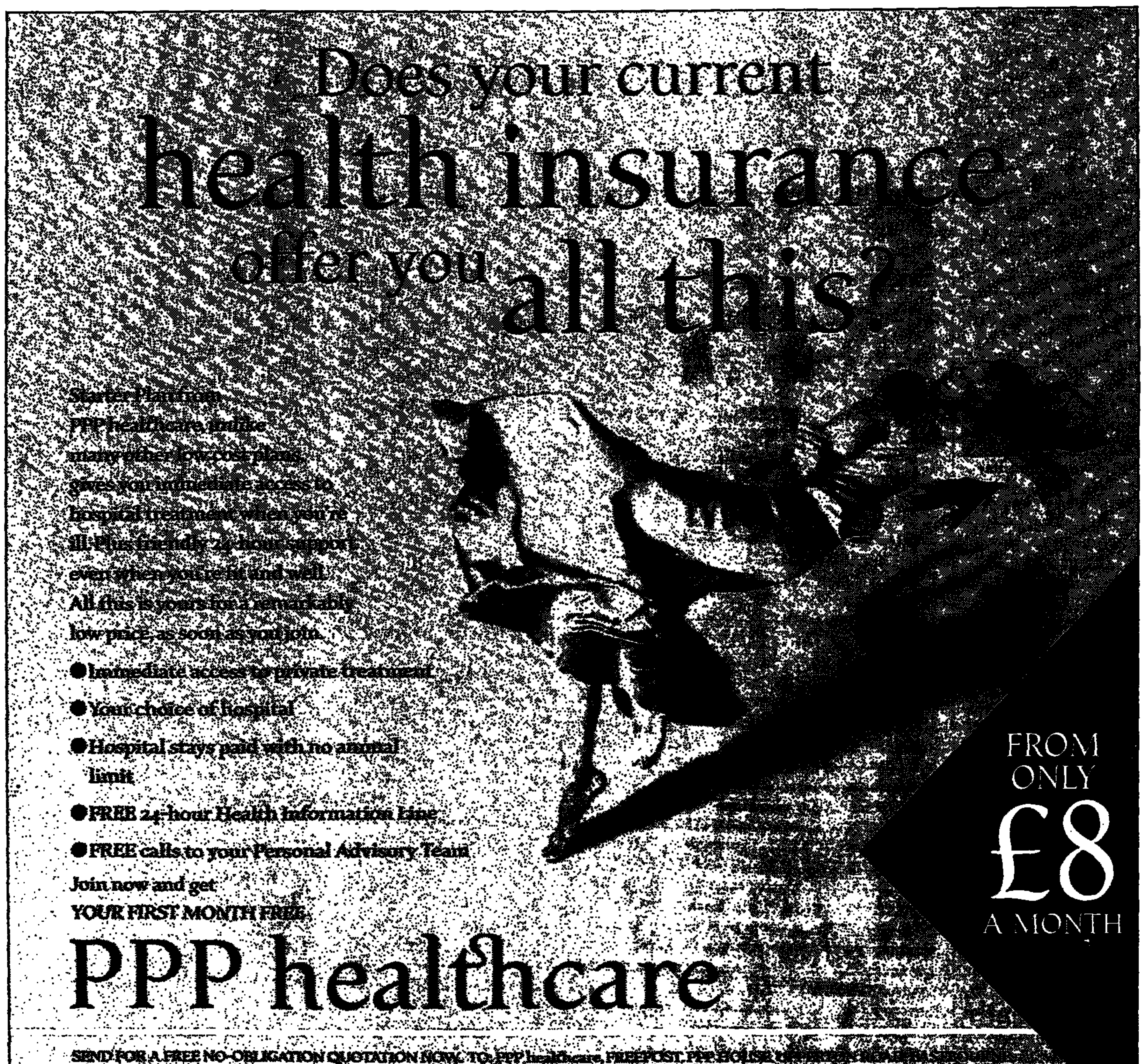
The deaths of three people since rioting broke out in Vlore a week ago has given the anti-Berisha revolt its first "martyrs". "Long live the free republic of Vlore" declared banners that were raised by the crowd yesterday.

Aleksandr Meksi, the Prime Minister, said the Government had removed Fokol Mulosmanj, the unpopular police chief in Vlore, and replaced him with Echem Kurci, from the nearby town of Fier. But Mr Meksi said Democratic Party deputies from the Vlore region had persuaded him and President Berisha not to impose a state of emergency in case it provoked further violence.

In Tirana, crowds pressed round a branch of the national bank as the authorities began to refund savers from funds frozen by the State when the pyramid schemes collapsed. "I got $600 (£365) of the $1,000 I invested," said one man. "Sixty per cent — not bad." Others said they had been told to "come back tomorrow".

In Rome, Pier Luigi Vigna, a senior anti-Mafia prosecutor, said many of Albania's troubles stemmed from massive infiltration by Italian organised crime, which had manipulated many of the fraudulent pyramid schemes, using Albanian "front men".

☐ Sofia: President Stoyanov of Bulgaria last night swore in Stefan Sofiyansky, the anti-Socialist Mayor of Sofia, as the caretaker Prime Minister and set new elections for April 19. *(AP)*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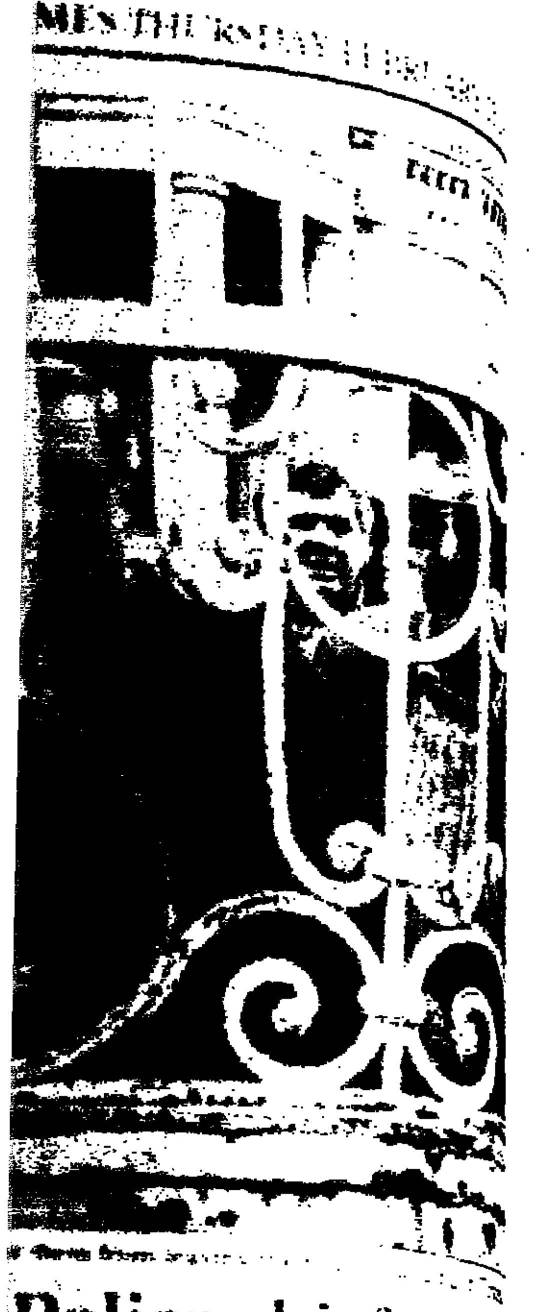

Police chief sacke as Vlore protester take over street

Pakistan Muslims force Christians to abandon homes

By Christopher Thomas, South Asia Correspondent

THOUSANDS of Pakistani Christians are living rough in tents after an estimated 20,000 Muslim rioters drove them from their homes in Punjab. It is one of the greatest single acts of persecution of Christians since the creation of Pakistan, which became an Islamic republic in 1956.

Hundreds of Christians had their homes set on fire, churches were destroyed and 25 girls from a wrecked Christian hostel are missing. All religious minorities in Pakistan have suffered discrimination, and Christians are generally among the poorest citizens.

Alexander John Malik, the Bishop of Lahore, the Punjab capital, said the entire Christian village of Shantinagar, 65 miles from the city of Multan, had been looted and set on fire. Christians were living in tents under the supervision of the army. Until now, Muslims and Christians had lived peacefully together for many decades. He accused police of provoking the trouble.

The deputy superintendent of police in Shantinagar was suspended after Christians accused him and two colleagues of desecrating the Bible during a raid on a Christian home. The officers were arrested and released on bail. Bishop Malik said they had sought revenge by spreading rumours that Christians had torn pages from the Koran, written blasphemous remarks on them and thrown them into a mosque.

Two men were reportedly killed during the riots, apparently by police bullets, and 19 others, including a policeman, were injured. There are fewer than three million Christians in Pakistan, which has a population of 130 million. Two years ago, a 14-year-old Christian boy was sentenced to death for blasphemy in Lahore, but was acquitted on appeal.

> ‘The news was broadcast that Muslims had found a desecrated copy of the Koran’

Christian Solidarity International, based in Surrey, said 13 churches were destroyed during the rioting. Muslims had reported finding a desecrated copy of the Koran.

"News of this incident was immediately broadcast by two vans fitted with loudspeakers," it said. "This drew a frenzied crowd who went on a rampage." The army was called in by police to quell the riots. The affair had been well planned and co-ordinated by extremists.

The organisation added that 1,500 families were made homeless by the riots. It urged international pressure on Pakistan to abandon the use of separate electoral rolls, under which religious communities vote for their own members. This "religious apartheid" acted against the political and social interests of minorities.

Benazir Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, never honoured a pledge to review the blasphemy laws to make them less open to abuse by Islamic extremists. A 1987 amendment to the blasphemy laws made the death penalty mandatory for anyone convicted of blasphemy involving the name of the Prophet Muhammad.

The small Ahmadiyya community, a religious sect founded in 1889, faces severe persecution. It is accused of claiming that its founder was a prophet, contrary to the orthodox Islamic tenet that Muhammad was the last prophet. Pakistan declared the Ahmadiyyas non-Muslim in 1974 and a decade later an ordinance made them liable for prosecution for any activity deemed likely to "outrage the religious feelings of Muslims".

ASIM TANVIR / REUTER

Pakistani Christian leaders complain to an army officer after they were attacked by rioting Muslims in the Punjab village of Shantinagar

Chinese arrest suspected leader of Islamic unrest

From James Pringle in Beijing

A SUSPECTED leader of last week's demonstrations in the remote town of Yining, in China's northwestern Muslim region of Xinjiang, has been arrested, a local Communist Party official said yesterday. The man, named Heilili, a 29-year-old Uighur, the region's principal ethnic minority, was said to have been the ringleader of a similar, less violent anti-Chinese demonstration last August. Then, he underwent "ideological education".

Officials said that between 200 and 300 people had been detained since the riots, last Wednesday and Thursday, when ten people were reported killed and 144 injured. They added that Heilili was under interrogation in Yining, 30 miles east of the border with Kazakhstan.

The rioting was the most violent reported outbreak since Communist China regained control of the region in 1950. Since then Beijing has moved millions of ethnic Han Chinese into the region, prompting sporadic outburts from the Turkic-speaking Uighurs, who have been spurred to action, analysts say, by the independence of the former Soviet Central Asian states, whose Muslim people are of the same ethnic make-up as those in Xinjiang.

Husband of Cornwell's lover jailed for 61 years

From Quentin Letts in New York

A FORMER FBI agent whose estranged wife had a lesbian affair with Patricia Cornwell, the novelist, faces a long stint in prison after being found guilty of attempted murder.

Eugene Bennett, 42, claimed he was insane when he plotted to kill his wife, Marguerite, but a jury in Virginia recommended that he spend 61 years in jail. Bennett, a father of two, used his surveillance skills to snoop on his wife while she conducted an affair with Miss Cornwell, who has made millions from detective novels. Miss Cornwell did not give evidence and did not attend the trial.

The court heard that Bennett started to plot his wife's death after their marriage broke down during her affair with Miss Cornwell. Bennett watched the two women embrace in a car and later kidnapped at gunpoint his wife's church minister, the Rev Edwin Clever, and lured Mrs Bennett to the scene.

Mrs Bennett, 42, herself a former FBI agent, suspected that her husband was up to something and went to the church with a gun. Bennett had tied the minister to a chair and had placed a bag around his waist that appeared to be primed with explosives.

Anderson is escorted by police into court yesterday

Six murder charges for New Zealander

From Agence France-Presse in Hamilton

THE man accused of carrying out the latest mass killing to rock New Zealand appeared in court yesterday as 400 people gathered for a memorial service for the six victims near the scene of the killings.

Five new murder charges were laid against Stephen Anderson, 24, in his second court appearance since the killings on Saturday at the ski resort of Raurimu.

Among the new charges was the murder of his father. Mr Anderson, who faced a first murder count when he was brought before a special court on Sunday, also faces eight charges of attempted murder and one of illegal possession of a shotgun.

Mr Anderson was not asked to enter a plea during the eight-minute hearing in the Hamilton District Court and was remanded in custody until February 26. His lawyer, Stuart Grieve, asked Judge Geoffrey Rea to remand Mr Anderson to a psychiatric institution.

Mr Anderson, who was found naked in the bush after the shootings, looked gaunt and downcast as he stood in the dock wearing white police-issue overalls, flanked by police officers.

Mr Anderson's father, Neville Robin Anderson, was among the dead. His mother was wounded in the attack which came during a family reunion at a ski lodge in the village.

'Little harm' in ten-death treachery

By Quentin Letts

THE American traitor Aldrich Ames, granted the surprising privilege of a television interview on an American news show, said that his betrayal of his country to the KGB caused "no significant damage".

The Soviet spy's casual denial that he had hurt America's national security interest, which was broadcast on ABC's *Nightline* programme, coincided with fresh claims about his treachery. A new book, *Confessions of a Spy*, based on prison interviews Ames gave to Pete Earley, a writer, stated that Ames betrayed more than twice as many CIA agents as has been disclosed previously.

At least ten agents met their deaths as a result, including deep sources in the Soviet defence industry and the KGB. Ames, who was arrested in Virginia in 1994, is serving a life prison sentence for selling American secrets to the former Soviet Union. He has been blamed previously for betraying 12 CIA agents who were operating in hostile territory, but according to Mr Earley the number was 25.

Books, page 44

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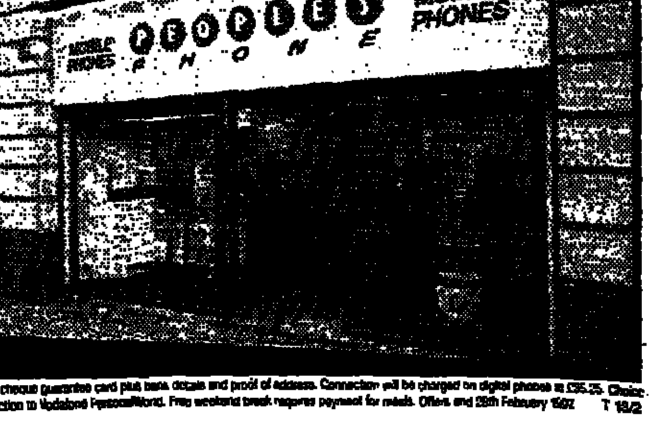

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Top North Korean official defects to Seoul embassy

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING AND ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

IN A potentially devastating blow to the waning fortunes of the isolated and paranoid Stalinist North Korean regime, a close confidant of the dictator, President Kim Jong Il, yesterday defected to the South Korean Government.

Hwang Jang Yop, 72, a secretary of the communist state's ruling Workers' Party and a member of the party central committee, was last night under heavy guard in a South Korean diplomatic compound in Beijing. He walked into the grounds of the South Korean Embassy at about 10am with Kim Duk Hung, his 55-year-old aide. They startled diplomats by requesting political asylum.

The two North Koreans had been on their way home to Pyongyang via Beijing, after attending a North Korean-sponsored seminar in Japan. South Korean envoys said Mr Hwang is the highest-ranking person to defect from the North, now beset by serious food and fuel shortages.

The North Korean Foreign Ministry said, however, that the aide must have been kidnapped. A spokesman said the idea that he had sought asylum was "inconceivable and impossible".

Acknowledging how embarrassing the matter was for the Chinese Government, which is North Korea's last remaining significant ally, Chung Jong Wook, the South Korean Ambassador, told reporters it was "a very sensitive issue". Embassy officials said negotiations were under way with the Chinese Government about "diplomatic methods" of getting Mr Hwang to Seoul.

Worried South Korean diplomatic sources said their embassy had warned diplomats and South Korean civilians in Beijing to exercise extra caution in case North Korean agents tried to take hostages for the return of Mr Hwang.

In the past few days many North Korean diplomats have left Beijing for Pyongyang to take part in 55th birthday celebrations on Sunday for the North Korean leader.

Diplomats and analysts in Beijing said Mr Hwang's defection could indicate a power struggle in the North, where there have been reports of differences between competing sectors in the regime. They said Mr Hwang was known to be a key theoretician behind *juche*, North Korea's ideology of self-reliance, in his earlier role as President of Kim Il Sung University.

The defection will be greeted with dismay by Kim Jong Il, who has ruled in a power vacuum since the death of Kim Il Sung, his father, in July 1994. The younger Kim has yet to succeed to his father's old titles of general secretary of the Workers' Party and state President. However, speculation that he would be promoted this year appeared to be supported by a flood of adulation preceding his birthday.

Mr Hwang is believed to have been a cousin of Kim Il Sung, who was regarded with almost god-like fervour.

There was some speculation in Beijing last night that a factor in the defection may have been Mr Hwang's possible failure to obtain more food aid in Japan, given the spectre of famine stalking North Korea after devastating floods destroyed harvests.

☐ **Seoul:** A South Korean loans scandal yesterday threatened to engulf President Kim Young Sam in an election year as Kim Woo Suk, the Home Minister, resigned, and another of the President's trusted associates was questioned by prosecutors. Lee Soo Sung, the Prime Minister, indicated he was also willing to quit amid media speculation that the whole Cabinet would have to go. *(Reuter)*

KHALED ZIGHARI / AP

Abir Wehaibi, right, one of 30 Palestinian women released from Israeli jails this week, is greeted by her mother in Ramallah yesterday. Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, will meet President Clinton in Washington today and, according to Israel radio, present him with new proposals for reviving the peace negotiations with Syria, which have been stalled for the past 11 months (Christopher Walker writes). Today's White House talks are the start of a new wideranging initiative by the Clinton Administration to harness the momentum resulting from last month's Israeli withdrawal from most of Hebron. Senior US officials said that Mr Netanyahu's visit would be followed by separate visits by Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, President Mubarak of Egypt and King Husain of Jordan.

Mr Clinton is said to be "acutely aware" that no comprehensive peace can be obtained in the region without a pact between Israel and Syria over the disputed Golan Heights.

Women celebrate liberty

Kremlin steps up attack on Nato

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE Kremlin yesterday launched an angry verbal attack against Nato, accusing the alliance of secretly undermining Russia's relations with the former Soviet republics.

In some of the toughest language yet used by Moscow in the acrimonious debate with Nato over its planned eastward expansion, the Kremlin accused the alliance of having an "undeclared and secret agenda".

"The West as a whole, and the leadership of Nato in particular, is opposed to any form of political and military integration among newly independent states, the former Soviet republics, especially when the initiative comes from Moscow," Sergei Yastrzhembsky, the presidential spokesman, said.

It is unthinkable that his remarks would not have been authorised at the highest levels of the Russian leadership, most probably personally by President Yeltsin, who is still recovering from flu.

Although unnamed, the target of the attack was clearly Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, who is on a tour of Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, all former Soviet republics where Russia keeps large military forces.

Señor Solana first angered the Russians during his visit to Moldova on Monday when he said that the Kremlin should comply with its commitment to pull its 6,000 troops out of the breakaway region of Transdnestr.

Nato sources denied Russia's allegations that the alliance was trying to prevent the integration of former Soviet republics. "Nato does not regard the relationship between these countries and the alliance, and the relationship between these countries and Russia as mutually exclusive," one source said.

The official said that Señor Solana was visiting the four former Soviet republics at their invitation. They were all members of Nato's *Partnership for Peace* programme and it was important to keep them informed of the latest Nato thinking, the official said.

Bonino chosen as new BSE chief

Bonino: taking charge of consumer health

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

IN A move to quell continental anger over its handling of the "mad cow" epidemic, the European Commission yesterday invested Emma Bonino, one of Brussels' star members, with new authority as chief of consumer health and downgraded the powerful agriculture directorate.

Stung by criticism from MEPs, Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, hopes the internal revamp will appease the Strasbourg assembly when it decides next week whether to censure the Brussels executive over its management of the BSE crisis. The Parliament is to endorse the findings of an inquiry which accused the Commission of consistent negligence, conniving with Britain and a policy which gave priority to the beef industry over public health.

A vocal band of MEPs is pushing the Parliament to pass a censure vote — though this is highly unlikely to succeed.

The main loser in the reshuffle is Franz Fischler, the Austrian Farm Commissioner, who heads Directorate-General VI, an empire within the Commission which runs agriculture, including making, implementing and monitoring policy on animal health and food safety. As part of the reform, the Commission is revamping the byzantine system of scientific committees responsible for formulating policy, making them more accountable.

The seven committees concerned with food safety will now report to the much-enlarged directorate under the Italian Signora Bonino.

Under the revamp, a group of commissioners headed by Mr Santer and including Signora Bonino will co-ordinate policy on food and human health, now one of the most sensitive areas of decision-making.

Farewell to Harriman

Washington: In death, as in life, Pamela Harriman is attracting a rare congregation of the great and good to her funeral at Washington's national cathedral today (Tom Rhodes writes).

President Clinton will deliver the eulogy, Al Gore, the Vice-President, and Winston Churchill, her son, will give readings. A host of the city's *diplomats, the Clinton Cabinet, White House officials and other notables are expected to attend.*

Much speculation has centred on the millions left to her by Averell Harriman. A decision on the will is said to be expected "soon".

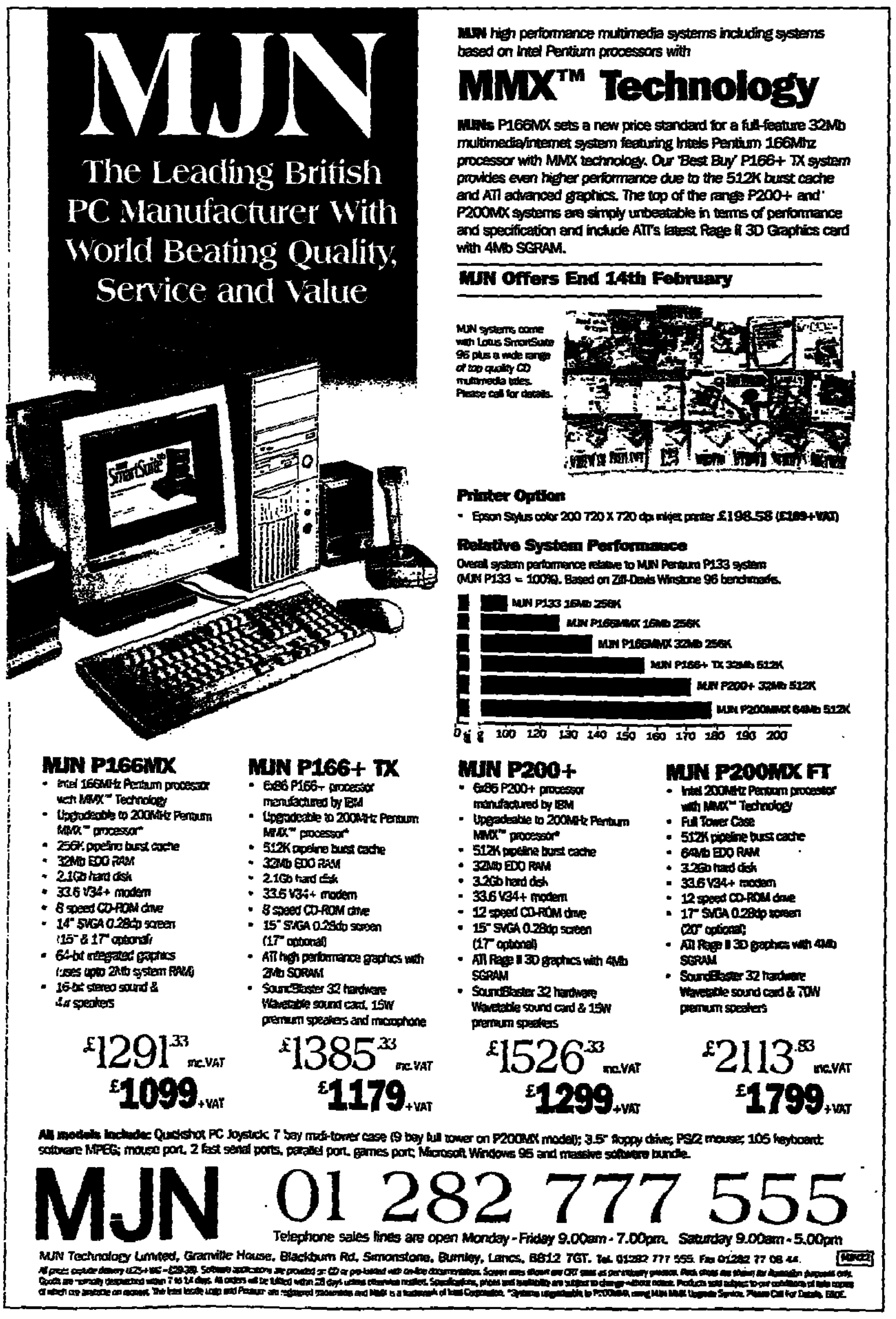
Anxious Kohl quick to deny cancer rumour

FROM PETER BILD IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, has emphatically denied rumours that he has cancer. Departing from his usual policy of ignoring personal comments, he has rejected claims in *Der Spiegel* magazine, which alluded to suspicions among his *Christian Democrat party members that he might have the disease.*

He described the rumours as pure invention. "I've experienced a lot of malice in my life but this is really tacky. It's clear what these people want. They're trying to spread uncertainty — among Christian Democrat members and supporters, in the German population at large and also among our foreign friends and partners."

Herr Kohl's strong response betrays political anxiety but also reflects a long-running grudge against the news magazine. *More than 20 years ago, when he arrived in Bonn as party leader, Der Spiegel contrasted his provincialism and inability to speak another* language with the internationalism of Helmut Schmidt and Willy Brandt, his Social Democrat predecessors.



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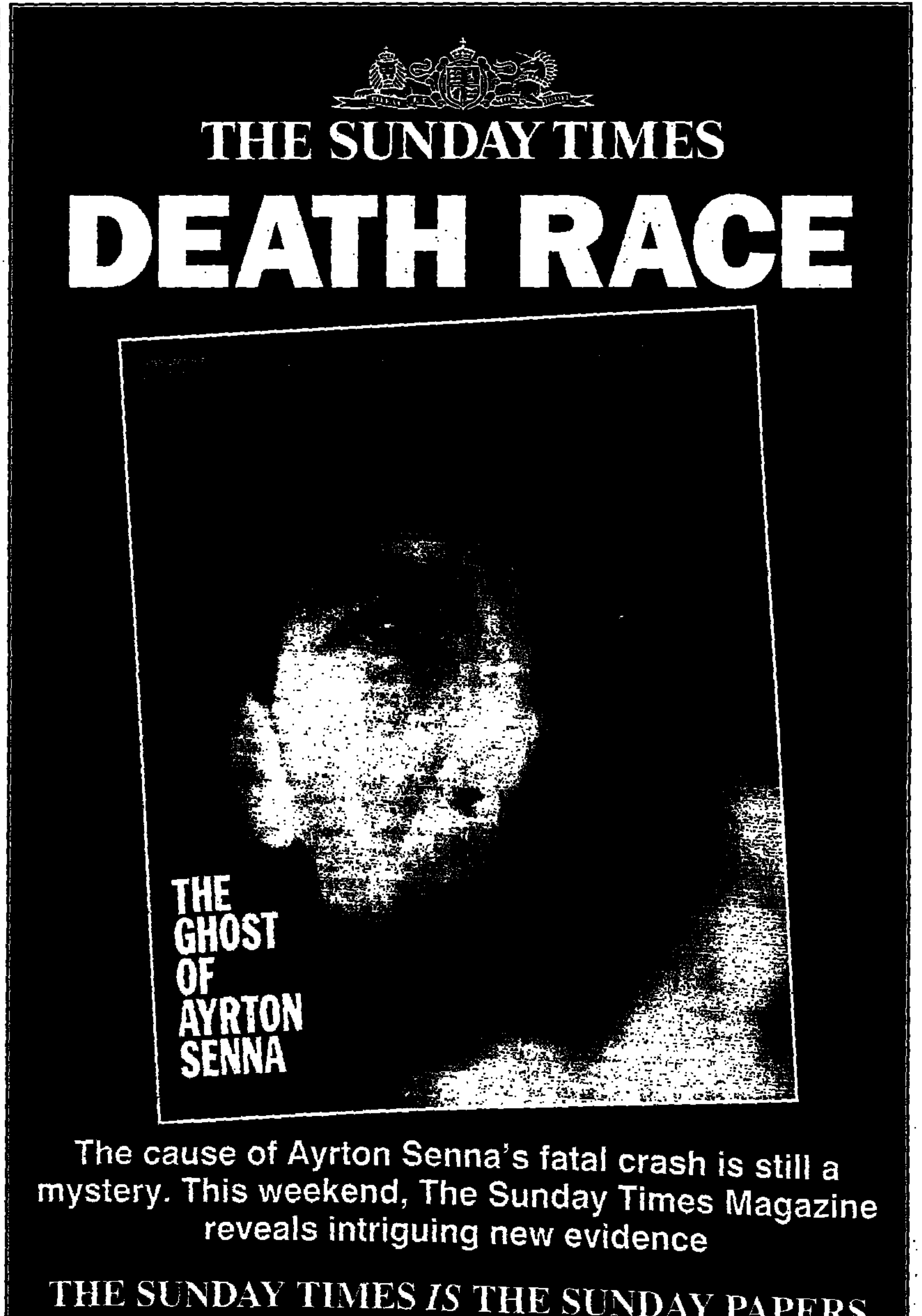


THE SUNDAY TIMES
DEATH RACE
THE GHOST OF AYRTON SENNA
The cause of Ayrton Senna's fatal crash is still a mystery. This weekend, The Sunday Times Magazine reveals intriguing new evidence
THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Roadblocks trap Britons in Spanish lorry strike

By Tunku Varadarajan in Madrid and Mark Henderson

EPA

Spanish national police guard a convoy of lorries transporting fish from Vigo and Marin in Galicia to Madrid, Seville, Valencia and other main cities yesterday

SCORES of British lorry drivers were trapped in Spain last night as an increasingly violent strike by Spanish truckers closed most of the country's northern motorways.

The strike, called indefinitely by the drivers' union, Fedetrans, started a week ago today. *Inspired in large measure* by France's violent stoppages last year, it has closed Spain's road borders with France and Portugal as well as several inland motorways through Castile, Cantabria and the Basque country.

British drivers at Irún, near the French border, reported as many as 1,500 lorries held up *by roadblocks, and attacks on* drivers and their vehicles. "The side of my truck was slashed with a Stanley knife, and lots of lads have had their tyres slashed," said John Walmsley, from Chatteris, near Newmarket.

Another British driver, Mick Shortland from Huddersfield, said the blockade was becoming more violent than the French strike. "They've set trucks on fire in *Zaragoza and Bilbao,*" he said. "They're dropping stones onto trucks from the bridges, and we heard two British drivers have been beaten up."

In Cabezón de Pisuerga, near Valladolid, a Briton was accused of threatening pickets with a pistol to force his way through a makeshift roadblock. In another incident at *the same village, a Dutch lorry* driver rammed the roadblock, injuring a picket. Elsewhere, foreign lorries have been attacked by pickets with crowbars and hammers, tyres have been slashed and bricks thrown through windscreens.

Some 500 lorry drivers were reported to be marooned on the Portuguese border with Extremadura, having spurned a Spanish offer of a police escort on the motorway. Interviewed *on Portuguese radio,* one said: "Things could get ugly, as they did in France. I am not taking any chances." An estimated 300 lorries — some two dozen of them British — are also stranded near Hendaye, on the French side of the border.

The strike has paralysed nearly 80 per cent of Spain's road transport sector. Losses for the first week have been estimated at £75 million, and *are likely to rise sharply in the* coming days.

Haulage firms in Britain said they faced huge losses. Three of the four lorries operated by Thermotrans in Southampton have been trapped by the strike, and Roger Grimes, UK transport manager of Breda International, said his company could lose £50,000 worth of business because of the firm's six blockaded lorries. "It is always us poor Brits *who get it in the neck,*" *he said.* "First it was France, then Greece and now Spain."

Yesterday, as the strike bit hard, Michelin, Nissan and Renault all announced "technical stoppages" at their Spanish factories as supplies of parts dried up. Suppliers of fresh fish in Galicia also announced that the strike was causing stocks to rot at ports and warehouses; and across northern Spain several petrol *stations have closed as tanks* emptied.

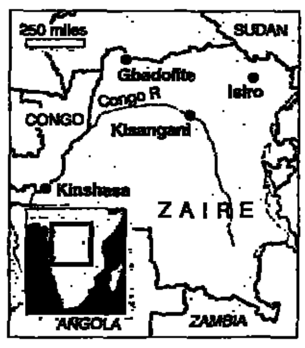
The basic demands of the Spanish strikers bear a close resemblance to those made last year by their French counterparts. Fedetrans wants the age of obligatory retirement to be reduced to 60, and that of voluntary retirement with full benefits to be lowered to 55. Furthermore, the union insists that fuel should be available to the sector at a *subsidised rate, as well as* enhanced medical benefits "tailored to the special circumstances of the profession".

The Spanish Ministry of Development, which has responsibilities for road transport, yesterday condemned the strike as "foolish and provocative".

A spokesman said: "We can only agree to civilised negotiation, for which channels already exist. This strike is *blackmail by a tiny minority* which is forcing the majority of honest and reasonable truckers to suspend their usual service."

Embattled Mobutu loses town

From Sam Kiley in Kinshasa and Our Foreign Staff



THE forces of Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader, set off *yesterday in the direction of* ailing President Mobutu's jungle palace at Gbadolite after capturing the key town of Isiro in northeast Zaire.

In Paris, a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said the *rebels, who hold towns and* territory in east Zaire, would be excluded from an international conference which France wants organised to tackle the Zaire crisis.

"Our forces are now in *complete control of Isiro,*" Mr Kabila said. "The town was taken late on Tuesday." Rebel officials said units were conducting mop-up operations in the town and had seized its airstrip. "Our struggle will continue until Mobutu is killed," sang the rebels.

Mr Kabila said government troops and foreign mercenaries had retreated from Isiro to Buta, the next stop on the road towards the President's residence. Isiro is about 500 miles *east of Gbadolite.*

"Our advance has caused a lot of panic in the Government. The panic is such that Mobutu now sleeps in Bangui (the capital of the Central African Republic) and only comes to Gbadolite in the morning," Mr Kabila added.

Mr Mobutu is due to pay a fleeting visit to Kinshasa, the Zairean capital, today. His henchmen will organise the usual rent-a-crowd reception for him. However, they have done so with dwindling enthu*siasm for a dying President* who heads a Government with an unpopular lame duck Prime Minister, Kengo wa Dondo, and a system so corrupt that teenage soldiers are sent to die in battle against *the rebels without pay, food or* ammunition. "There are signs that members of his own entourage are losing faith in Mobutu," one Western ambassador noted.

On Monday Kinshasa was *shut down in* a "dead city" protest organised by anti-Mobutu leaders. Another protest, this time by students, is scheduled for tomorrow.

In the capital there is growing support for Mr Kabila, who recently vowed to "kill Mobutu". Kinshasa, and Zaire's vast mineral wealth, is in the hands of a number of inter-related families that control the Government and the Opposition and do good business with arms and diamond smugglers in Kinshasa.

*A Defence Ministry spokes*man tried to put a brave face on the loss of Isiro. He insisted that Zaire's infantry would retake the town. He admitted, however, that the soldiers were far beyond the range of *mercenary-piloted helicopter* gunships, which could turn the battle in the Government's favour.

An aid worker who recently returned from the town said: "The defeated soldiers will be *on the run* by now. If they have any transport they could be in Kisangani within a week. Humiliated, exhausted and angry they will enter a town with large amounts of food aid stockpiled, cars, wealth, and take revenge against their own people for abandoning them."

Genocide tribunal 'shambles'

New York: A United Nations watchdog agency yesterday described the Rwanda war *crimes tribunal as a manage*ment shambles and called for the ousting of the Madagascan prosecutor in charge of bringing genocide suspects to justice (James Bone writes).

The UN's internal investi*gation — conducted by its* office for internal oversight services — stems from complaints about nepotism and mismanagement at the tribunal's offices in Arusha, Tanzania, and its prosecution section in the Rwandan capital, Kigali.

The tribunal, set up two years ago, has indicted 21 people for *their role* in the 1994 genocide by Hutu extremists, which claimed more than half a million lives in Rwanda. It recently began its first trial.

America aghast at Oscar invasion by foreign stars

From Quentin Letts in New York

HOLLYWOOD'S trouncing in the Oscar nominations by foreign actors and independently produced films — a number of them British or with British connections — has gone down like a *stinkbomb with America's* flintier arts commentators.

"Who are these people, anyway?" demanded yesterday's *New York Post*. The paper's Cindy Adams wrote: "What is it with those twinkies out there who make the nominations?"

Mrs Adams proceeded, by her own admission, to "bitch" about the long list of non-American nominees, from Britain's Brenda Blethyn in *Secrets and Lies* and Kristin Scott Thomas in *The English Patient* to the Australian Geoffrey Rush who played the lead role in the largely Australian-made *Shine*. Of Marianne Jean-Baptiste, who was nominated for a best supporting actress Oscar for her part in Mike Leigh's British hit *Secrets and Lies*, Mrs Adams asked: "Marianne Jean What?"

> 'Who are these people anyway?'

American film critics beat their brows in astonishment that Madonna had been "snubbed" by the Academy, there being no reward for her role in *Evita*.

Headline writers called the nominations shock "Independents Day" in tribute to the preponderance of non-Hollywood films over the usual blockbusters. The only Hollywood film to do really well was *Jerry Maguire*, whose star, Tom Cruise, can probably count on unqualified support from the home crowd on Oscar night next month.

Such was the sense of shock at Hollywood's eclipse that *The New York Times* looked down its lorgnette and saw fit to publish a leader on the sbject. "The Oscar nominations may be a tribute to an exciting new wave of talent," it pronounced, with hidden emphasis on the "may".

"Or they could be an embarrassing admission that the major American studios did not produce anything more interesting than *Jerry Maguire*."

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Dr Thomas Stuttaford on St Valentine and the stigma of epilepsy, the age-old search for aphrodisiacs, the latest treatment for stroke victims and the link between hormones and asthma attacks

The last of the hidden diseases

In 1926, Graham Greene contemplated suicide for the second time when he was working as a sub-editor at *The Times*. It wasn't the pressure of work, or the illiteracy of the reporters, which, on this occasion, had upset the balance of his mind, but the thought that he had epilepsy. Years later he wrote: "Epilepsy, cancer and leprosy — these are the three medical terms which rouse the greatest fear in the untutored, and at 22 one is unprepared for so final a judgment." Greene rejected the idea of suicide, but he decided that it would be better if he did not marry in case he transmitted the trait.

Greene had been prone to fainting when he was at school and was sent to consult a Harley Street neurologist. Although his parents were informed of the diagnosis, it was considered too dreadful to tell such a young patient. It was only four years later, when Greene had the blackout across his sub-editors' desk, that it was decided to let him in on the secret.

Friends rallied to Greene's support, and he knew that epilepsy had not prevented Dostoevsky from succeeding as a novelist, but he was finally comforted only when the then *Times* medical correspondent, Dr McNair Wilson, and Graham's elder brother, told him that neurologists were often mistaken in their diagnosis. Not only was treatment for epilepsy then primitive but the diagnosis had to be made without the advantage of an EEG or an MRI scan.

Cancer is now openly discussed, leprosy is, if treated early, curable — only epilepsy has retained its sinister reputation and is still considered too frightening to be discussed openly.

St Valentine is the patron saint of those suffering from epilepsy, and people suffering from it sometimes make a pilgrimage to Terni, in Italy, where he was a bishop. Rome also claims his burial spot. Others sufferers go to Ruffiac, in France, which is associated with epilepsy because it once had a famous hospital which treated the affliction.

A pilgrimage to St Valentine would never come amiss, but patients are advised to visit a specialist epilepsy clinic first. Although there is some contention about the natural history of epilepsy, most doctors believe that seizures beget seizures and that the sooner someone is treated the better. Sometimes epilepsy disappears spontaneously; after Greene was reassured by *The Times* doctor he never had another attack, and in other cases, after years of trouble-free life, treatment can be withdrawn. When it is, however, there is a relapse rate of up to 40 per cent. The longer the patient has maintained the treatment, the less there is a chance of a relapse.

Pray to a Valentine — but go to see a doctor first

Treatment for epilepsy is now so good that 75 per cent of patients are so well controlled that they have no seizures. Modern drugs recently introduced to treat epilepsy are often not only more effective but are said to have fewer side-effects.

Apart from migraine, epilepsy is the most common brain disorder — as common as diabetes — but whereas in the south-east health region of England there are 16 diabetic clinics, there is only one for patients with epilepsy.

Epilepsy is the last of the stigmatised diseases, and people are happier to discuss their sexually transmitted diseases, or their fatal malignancy, than they are to admit to having it. More than 1.5 million people in Britain suffer from epilepsy at some time of their lives, and five million people's lives are affected by it because a member of the family has had a seizure. At any one time, between 4,000 and 5,000 people are receiving treatment.

As well as buying Valentine's cards and flowers tomorrow to celebrate the patron saint of romantic love, a donation to the Institute of Epileptology at the Maudsley Hospital, in London, would be well received. The institute is the only academic centre devoted to the study and treatment of epilepsy in the world. The Saudi royal family is very generous to this research, but far more money is collected for the investigation of leprosy in Britain than is spent on epilepsy, and for every pound collected for epilepsy, £250 goes to muscular dystrophy.

CORBIS-BETTMANN/UPI

Lois Will and Ruth Waddell ate 204 oysters at the 1925 New York follies. An improvement in sexual appetite was unlikely

A fruitless search for the food of love

SO THAT the readers will be feeling at their best for Valentine's Day, magazines have devoted pages this month to discussion about foods which are thought to have an aphrodisiac value.

Most of the writers have recommended diets which are likely to be of benefit to long-term sexual health and contain foods rich in zinc, selenium, manganese and anti-oxidant vitamins.

For centuries there have been attempts to find a substance which would have an immediate effect on libido. It is doubtful if such a food exists, although there are men who swear that their sex life benefits from yohimbine. Others, of both sexes, believe that ginseng is a powerful stimulant. Presumably this action more than counteracts ginseng's feminising oestrogenic action — otherwise men would find its long-term physical effects surprising and disappointing.

Yohimbine, the principal alkaloid of the bark of the yohimbé tree, is an alpha receptor blocker. It raises blood pressure, increases heart rate, speeds excretion of urine and is claimed to improve both potency and libido.

In both sexes the male hormone testosterone improves libido, whereas in women progestogens, which form part of combined hormone replacement therapy, usually reduce it. Alcohol increases desire, but it reduces ability and enjoyment.

Most of the recommended foods alleged to have aphrodisiac powers rely upon their appearance to stimulate sexual appetites.

Strokes and the case for surgery

George Harris was expected to continue to work in the City until he was 65, but like most of his generation he has been retired early.

George, now 58, spends the time he would have been crouched over his desk bent over his golf clubs. About eight weeks ago, while he was playing his morning round, he noticed that the grip of his right hand was more feeble than usual and that he had some slight difficulty in speaking. The loss of power in his right hand was such that the game had to be abandoned, but George's small stroke was no more than a transient ischaemic attack (TIA).

Within a few hours his confident voice was once again booming around the house, and his ability to play golf was back to normal.

George's doctor arranged that his carotid arteries, the main arteries in the neck which feed the blood to the brain, should be scanned. In George's case all was well, the arteries were not unduly narrowed and treatment with daily aspirin to prevent small clots was prescribed.

George was lucky in the outcome of his TIA and in his GP. A recent survey reported in the *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners* has shown that although most family doctors are aware that carotid imaging is recommended after a TIA or a small stroke, only 11 per cent arrange one.

Too many doctors fail to order a scan

Carotid imaging is important in all patients who have had a minor TIA, provided that they are fit enough to be considered for carotid surgery, should it be indicated. Usually the patient should have a life expectancy of at least three years if surgery is to be considered, and be free of serious cardiac disease which can be associated with narrowed carotid arteries.

A certain number of cases of stenosed, severely narrowed, carotid arteries, are detected during routine medicals, when the doctor listens to the neck with a stethoscope to discover if the blood flow is impeded.

Two large clinical trials in Europe and America have demonstrated that arterial surgery to clear the fatty plaques obstructing the artery, usually the internal carotid after the main carotid artery has divided into two, is very worthwhile.

The nature of the operation, carotid endarterectomy, and the investigations needed before it is undertaken, has recently been described in *Pulse* magazine.

The decision to operate is discussed very carefully with the patients and is not taken until after the scan has shown the artery is more than 70 per cent obstructed.

If the scan shows severe stenosis angiography, an X-ray of the artery may be carried out, but this has some risk as there is about a 1 per cent chance of precipitating another stroke.

The dilemma is that failing to operate when the carotid artery is more than 70 per cent stenosed is associated with a 25 per cent chance of suffering a major, possibly fatal, stroke within 18 months. Conversely, the surgery has a 5 per cent chance of causing a stroke.

Successful surgery reduces the likelihood of the patient having a further stroke by more than 75 per cent.

Illness that targets women

THE timing of a woman's asthma attacks has a close relationship to her hormonal balance. Research from the United States, reported in the *General Practitioner* magazine, analysed the treatment in hospital of 33,269 patients with from acute asthma.

Before the age of ten, boys were found to have twice as much asthma as girls, in the teenage years the sexes were equally affected, but between the ages of 20 and 50 — the reproductive years — women were three times as likely as men to need hospital care. In 46 per cent of these cases the woman's attack had happened during the four days either side of the start of her period.

Pregnancy usually has little effect on asthma, but it is important for the pregnant woman to continue with her regular treatment. Doctors will always check the asthma treatment she is having at the start of her pregnancy, and it is sometimes as well to change the drug used to one which does not easily cross the placental barrier.

As always, the reference books *Mims*, the national formulary, and *Martindale's Pharmacopoeia*, are invaluable guides. Inhaled drugs are the treatment of choice during pregnancy because the baby is not damaged by them. Many women experience asthma for the first time at or around the menopause. Unfortunately there is no guarantee that once their hormones have settled down again the asthma will clear. It remains very much more common in women than in men, even in old age.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome

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In an article in The Times last week, Dr Thomas Stuttaford commented on *The Sufferers' Guide to Coping with IBS*, published by the IBS Research Team at Central Middlesex Hospital. The response has been tremendous. To ease pressure on the hospital switchboard, would enquirers please contact the Appeal's office at the address below.

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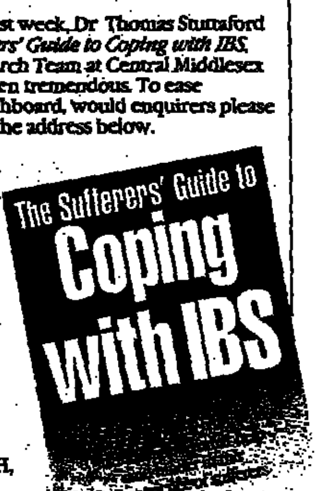

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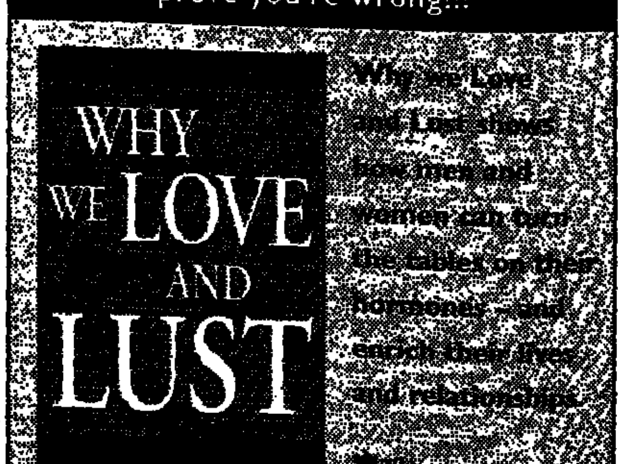

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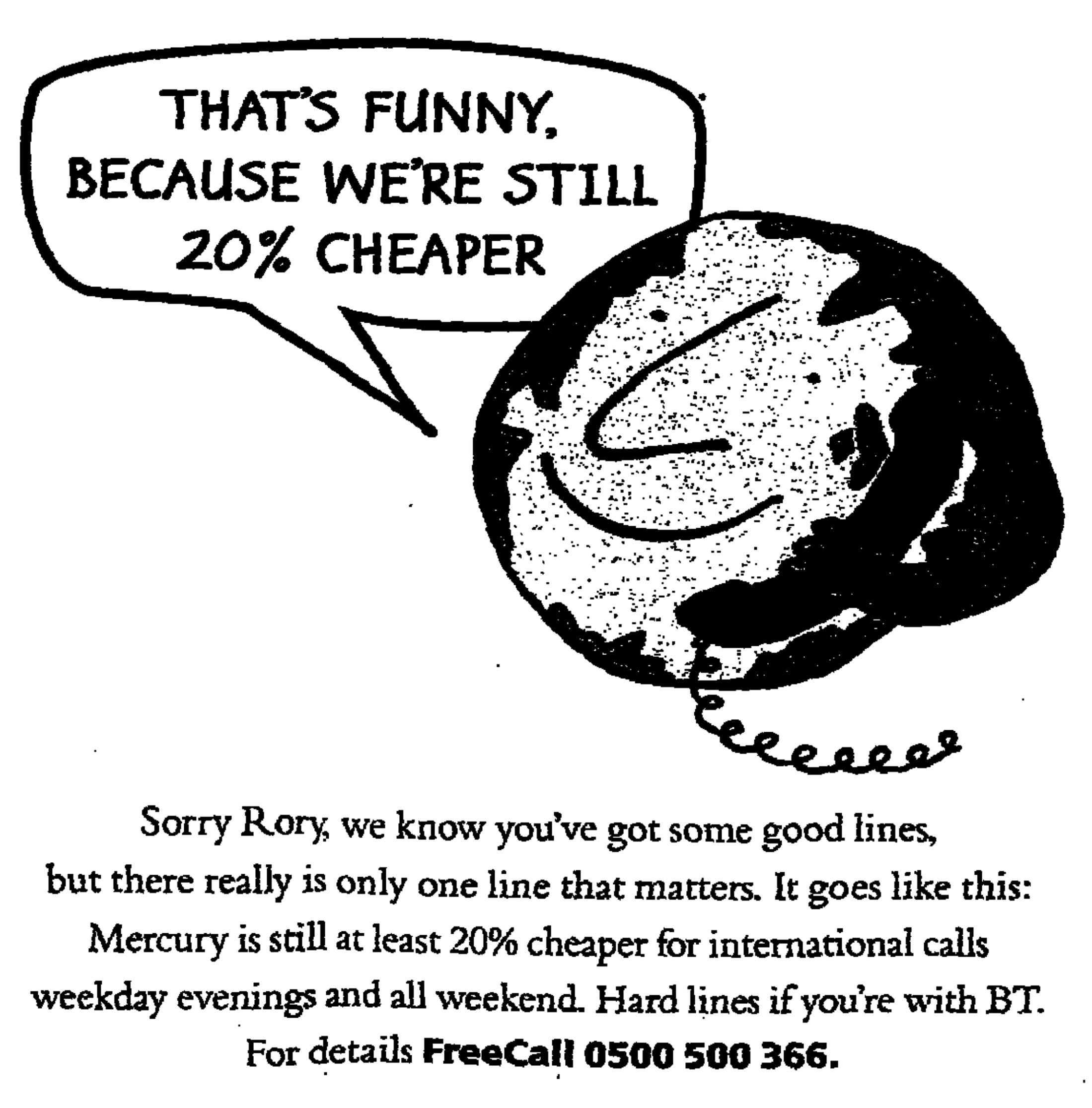
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The race to replace OJ

[illegible] Americans badly need somebody to cheer. Quentin Letts reports

CHARLES PLATIAU

PETER COSGROVE

Contenders for the black throne: gymnast Dominique Dawes, the only black member of the winning American Olympic team, and golfing newcomer Tiger Woods

When Tiger Woods made a visit last week to his mother's home country of Thailand there was such excitement that the local television stations interrupted their normal programmes to carry the event live. "Now over to our cameras at the airport," announcers jabbered, "where Tiger Woods is just at this very moment walking down the aircraft steps!"

You would have thought it was the Pope, but the reception was for a 21-year-old golfer who has not yet, let us note, won a major tournament. Despite a locker full of talent, Woods is still but a middling sports presence on the professional golf tour.

What he is, however, is something far more rare and marketable: an African-American pin-up, a black idol. It has not been a good few months for prominent American blacks. O.J. Simpson came badly unstuck in Santa Monica earlier this month, and now seems unlikely to regain the high public standing he had before he was arrested for the murder of his ex-wife. With OJ's downfall the public appeal of Johnnie Cochran, his first trial lawyer, and the man who by playing the race card "won the unwinnable case," has probably passed its best.

Bill Cosby had well-chronicled difficulties in January. Cosby, an honest-faced actor with a gift for comic timing, has long been one of America's foremost blacks. He was the first black man to make it big on primetime network television and his screen personality served as an ideal of genial fatherhood to the entire nation.

When his son Ennis was killed in California the American people at first mourned as one, but then the thread started to unravel. A young woman came forward claiming to be his illegitimate daughter and the star himself made a televised admission that he had been unfaithful to his wife.

We are all human and what he did was nothing worse than many people have done, but the public confession has changed the way America looks at Bill Cosby. Another black idol had fallen and been cracked.

There has been a shortage of female black idols, too. Whitney Houston, she of the big voice and silken ambition, has taken a dent or two from claims about her private life. Anita Hill, whose sex harassment case against Judge Clarence Thomas made her one of the most widely recognised black women in America a few years ago, has all but vanished from view.

In their place black youngsters now look to the likes of Angela Bassett, the actress who played Tina Turner in *What's Love Got to Do With It*, or to the astronaut, Mae Jemison, first black woman in space. Television's Oprah Winfrey, the enduring agony aunt of black America, also continues to serve as a beacon of African-American achievement.

Add to this such incidents as the violent death in Las Vegas of the rapper, Tupac Shakur, the problems of bad-boy basketball star Dennis Rodman, the continuing image woes of boxer Mike Tyson and, most recently, the sexual harassment allegations which are being made against Sergeant Major Gene McKinney, the black recruit who is the most senior NCO in the US Army. A pattern begins to emerge. One hears polemicists lament that there are "not enough African-American heroes," not enough public figures of high repute for young blacks to idolise and of whom to say "that's what I want to be when I grow up". The Simpson and Cosby cases, picked over endlessly by the media, only made matters worse.

> 'Role models are more important than idols'

That is why Woods has been seized on with such alacrity, way before he has reached the top of his sport. It is also why young blacks in other fields of endeavour are given disproportional encouragement in the US.

In politics there is J.C. Watts, a 39-year-old Southern Republican who gave his party's spoken response to President Clinton's State of the Union address — at the very moment, ironically, that the Simpson verdict came in from Santa Monica. Watts is an accomplished orator and an astute politician, and he made a very much better fist of things than did then Senator Robert Dole after last year's State of the Union.

But it is accepted that he was picked simply on grounds of colour: such is America's desire to give its blacks something, someone to cheer. In athletics, Dominique Dawes, the only black member of America's winning women's Olympic gymnastics team, has gone on to far more interesting things than her white team mates.

She has appeared in a pop video with Prince, she has been in *Grease* on Broadway and she has received numerous awards from black organisations proud to claim her as their own. On New York's Madison Avenue one day I saw her being stopped by an admiring young black fan who sought her autograph. She gave it graciously, aware of her own good fortune.

Not all blacks, however, sit easy with the idea of black figureheads. Professor Obie Clayton, vice-provost for research at the leading black university, Morehouse College in Atlanta, stresses that black role models are more important than black idols.

Politician: J.C. Watts

The role model, he explains, is likely to be someone you know or meet in ordinary life — a teacher, perhaps, a pastor, or a senior colleague at work — while the idol will be someone whose example it is probably impossible to follow. "Put it like this — I'm never going to be as good at golf as Tiger Woods," he says. "But young blacks can perhaps hope to live up to certain role models.

"There may not be as many charismatic black leaders today as they were in the times of Martin Luther King," says Professor Clayton, "but that can be a good thing. There are an increasing number of black students in college nowadays, an increasing number of black PhDs. Perhaps they will be the role models of tomorrow." Professor Clayton is wary about the white media choosing the sort of heroes they think black Americans should have.

Matthew Scott, managing editor of *Black Enterprise* magazine, believes that his readers like public figures who have the whiff of rebellion. "They like people who beat the odds, who overcome the system," he says. Examples: Spike Lee, the film director, or the late US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, a black man who "beat" the Washington system up to a point — although he was under the scrutiny of federal authorities at the time of his death in a plane crash last year in Bosnia.

The rebellion ingredient is present in Woods. Golf was long seen as a white man's game. Now along comes a half-black, half-oriental kid who lands hundreds of millions of dollars worth of endorsements and knocks a golf ball pretty decently, too.

One name that is seldom mentioned as a black idol, is that of Colin Powell, who is spoken of as a possible Republican party presidential candidate. "He ain't black!" laughed a young black friend of mine in New York. The same is often said of Clarence Thomas, a conservative who was seen by some blacks — surely unfairly — as having betrayed his colour in favour of his right-of-centre ideological beliefs. Can blacks not be right wing, too? The rise of young blacks such as Woods, Watts and Dawes is something to cheer, but it is only a qualified cheer. Professor Clayton is right to hope that a wider black middle class will reduce the apparent dependency on black champions.

The tendency to support successful black people simply because they are black is not an attractive one. It smacks of quota-ism and is as unappealing as the triumphant crowing from many sections of Jewish America recently when it emerged that the Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, came from Jewish stock. The increasing tribalism of the United States, once the melting pot of the world, is a sorry business.

A few months ago, says the engaging Woods, the only time he thought about race was "when the media asked me". The best thing that could happen to *fin de siècle* America would be for all of us to concentrate not on his skin colour but on the brilliance of his swing.

New old swingers in town

Joe Joseph discovers that age should not be measured in years

It is both a blessing and a bit embarrassing that when human beings do something for the first time, they often presume that it is the first time it has ever been done. Contrary evidence rarely deters them: look at new parents.

The blessing is that this egotistic belief helps us to maintain a sense of wonderment in the world. It also gives creative inspiration to artistic types: otherwise Wordsworth would have just looked at that host of golden daffodils and said, "So what's new?".

Now David Bailey, having reached the grand age of 59, has decided that he is not actually old. Not old-fashioned, straightforward, up-and-down old. David is still a brilliant photographer. He feels sprightly. Still fancies women. Still brims with creative ideas. So do Dave's ageing chums, people like Mick Jagger and Jack Nicholson, who both like a night on the tiles with a bird or two, but who still have enough stamina left to cut CDs and make movies in the morning.

No, David Bailey is not plain "old", he said this week. He is one of the "*New Old*", along with Mick and Jack: they are the advance shock troops of a new phenomenon. "People used to say you can't be a pop star at 60," said Bailey, "but Mick will be." He likens himself and his "new old" mates to supposedly rare predecessors like Picasso, who worked well into old age.

But are the "new old" all that new? Or that unique that you have to be a 1960s vintage photographer, or rock singer, or movie star to qualify?

History is chock-full of people who not only carried on making a noise well into old age, but who often only began making any noise at all after their peers were drawing pensions. People like Harry Truman, Coco Chanel, Joseph Conrad, Boris Karloff, and even Colonel Sanders, who only started his southern fried chicken business after he turned 60.

Daniel Defoe was in trade until the age of 60, when he decided to experiment with a new literary form called the novel, an experiment that gave us *Robinson Crusoe* and *Moll Flanders*. Isaac Bashevis Singer, who wrote mostly in Yiddish, was in his fifties before word of his talent spread. Barbara Woodhouse, reputedly the fastest dog trainer ever, said: "Life began for me at 70."

Isaac Hirschfeld, the man credited with coining the phrase "senior citizen" never even had a steady job until he was 75. He stayed inventive to the last. In his nineties, he summoned his family to his hospital bedside for what they assumed would be a profound deathbed statement, but which turned out to be: "The nurses around here are big enough to be playing professional football."

Crowds queued and cooed for last year's Cezanne exhibition in London, but it was only towards the end of his own life that Cezanne was noticed. "I have made some progress," he wrote to a friend, "but why so belatedly and why so painfully?" The American painter Edward Hopper was well into his sixties before the world fell for his dark, shadowy streets and his all-night diners.

Jazz pianist and composer Eubie Blake was out of fashion for nearly half a century before ragtime was rediscovered in the Seventies, when Blake himself was nearer 90. "If I'd known I was going to live this long," he quipped, "I would have taken better care of myself." But he was still spry enough to play on the White House lawn at the age of 95.

"There is nothing more remarkable in the life of Socrates," said Montaigne, "than that he found time in his old age to learn to dance and play on instruments and thought it time well spent."

So Jagger and Bowie can go dancing in the street all night and they'd still be nothing to raise Socrates's eyebrows.

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Europhobia is bad for business

There is no alternative to EMU, says **Christopher Haskins**

The existence of the European Union is a recognition that the concept of absolute national economic and political sovereignty is gradually being replaced by a sharing of economic and political sovereignty between the members. The objective of establishing a single currency, due to start in 1999, is enshrined in the Treaty of Rome, and was recognised by all members, including Britain, when they signed it.

Remarkably, of the 15 members, only Britain and, to a lesser extent, Denmark have genuine reservations about the political direction the EU is taking. Britain is alone in its desire to opt out of monetary union — the Danish krone is already fixed against the mark. Eleven other countries seek to participate in the EU on the terms laid down by the Treaty of Rome, the Single European Act and the Maastricht Treaty. So 25 countries broadly recognise the benefits of half a century of peace, prosperity and co-operation. Britain alone continues to equivocate.

Various British political groups reject the whole idea. The political sceptics, largely on the Right, cling tenaciously, if hopelessly, to an image of national sovereignty that has more relevance to Victorian imperialism than to the 21st century. The economic doubters, mainly on the Left, cherish a Keynesian national solution to problems, more than 50 years after Keynes himself recognised that the world had changed, by signing up to the Bretton Woods agreement of 1944.

Further economic and political integration is inevitable

British political sovereignty died in 1943, when Churchill was forced to hand over the direction of the war to the American President Roosevelt. After the war, as a member of Nato, we ceded further sovereignty to America, in return for guarantees of security. British economic sovereignty died in 1944, when the Bretton Woods settlement created the International Monetary Fund. Thereafter, British monetary policy was determined ultimately by the international financial markets: today only the United States can claim economic self-sufficiency.

Yet 40 years after Suez, people delude themselves that there are independent political and economic options available to Britain outside the EU. Right-wing nationalists still envisage the possibility of a national war, and argue that the Maastricht Treaty denies them this option. In their quiet moments, the romantic Right must recognise that at the very least the EU has rendered a war between the nations of Western Europe inconceivable. And the Left must accept that international economic co-operation ensures that the catastrophe of pre-war depression could not happen in the modern world.

Political Europhobia is easier to counter than economic scepticism. Ultimately the right-wing would take Britain out of the EU, and many on the Right have the honesty to say so. But public opinion would reject such a wild proposition, and all our friends, including the Americans, would quickly point out its folly.

The position of those who are politically pro-European but economically sceptical is more puzzling. They seem to hope that the European development can be frozen on their terms, and refuse to recognise that further economic and political integration is inevitable. If they hold sway, Britain will opt out of the next stages of political and economic evolution for a few years, and then realise its mistake and rejoin the process on less advantageous terms.

Of course there are risks when radical new policies of economic and political interdependence are being pursued. But the biggest hurdles have already been overcome. The European Court of Justice, strengthened in the last decade, was important to the Thatcher Government in tackling cheating within the single market, and is working well. Monetary policies are converging across Europe, as are the economic cycles of the member states, though the poorer, less disciplined Mediterranean countries still have some way to go.

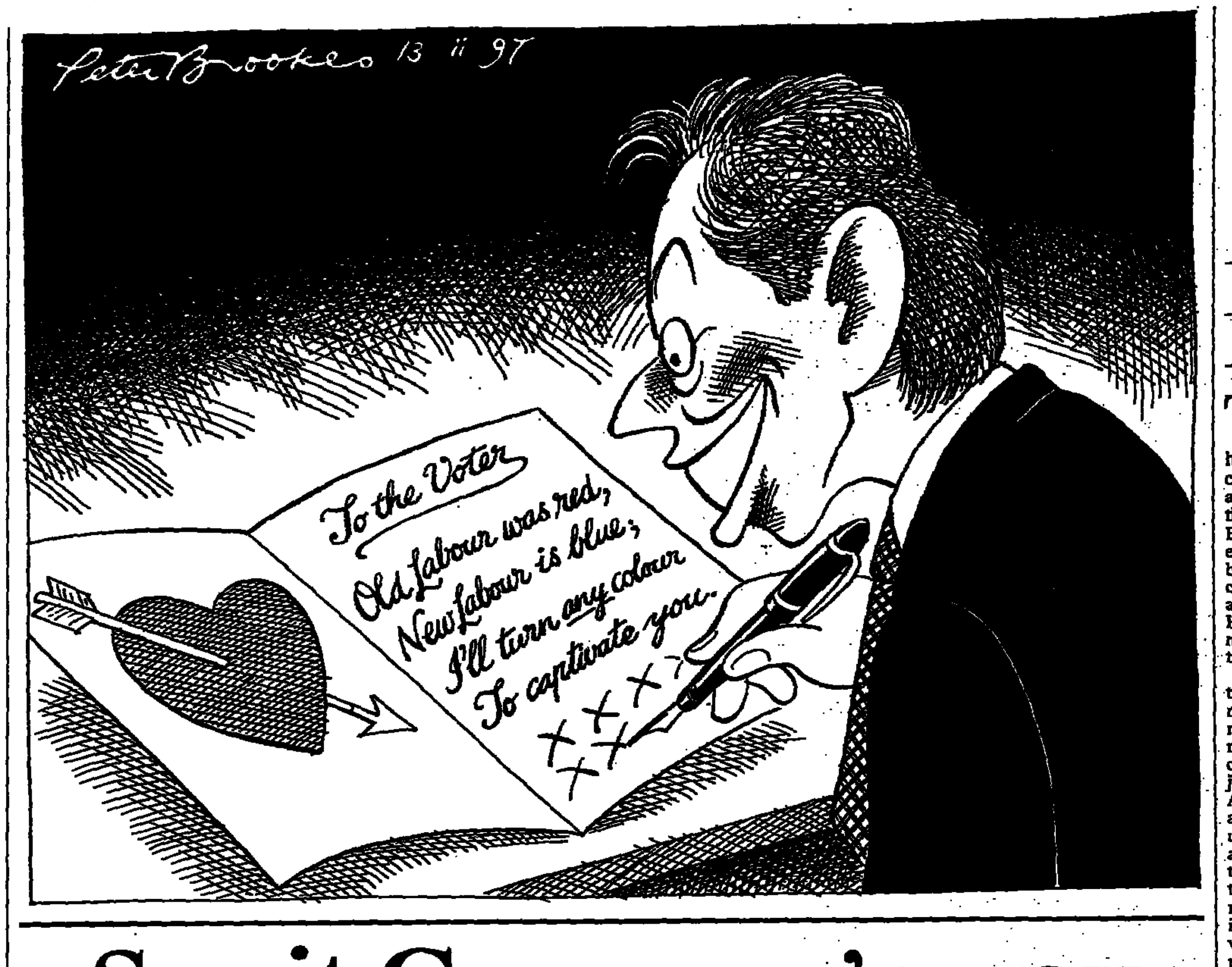
The benefits of economic and monetary union are well chronicled — completion of the single market, increased competition, lower prices, lower inflation, lower interest rates, more investment and jobs. Its dangers are equally obvious, the inability of many members to meet the convergence criteria from the outset being the main one.

Some fears are overstated. High unemployment is driven by technology rather than Brussels. Nowadays, capital moves to locations with cheap, productive labour, rather than the other way round as in the industrial revolution. The minimum wage is a national rather than a European proposition, and the Social Chapter cannot force social security costs on unwilling members.

Monetary union will probably begin in two years' time, and there will be a number of initial starters: Germany, France, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland and possibly Finland. Other countries may have to start rather later: Italy, Spain, Portugal, as well as a more reluctant Sweden and Denmark. It may take Greece longer to qualify.

It is perfectly feasible for Britain to be in at the outset, or for us to wait a while, but in the long term it is sensible to be an early rather than a late starter. But to rule ourselves out of monetary union now would be stupid and self-destructive. Permanent self-exclusion would almost certainly lead to a wholly disastrous withdrawal from the EU. When the case for monetary union and for the EU is eventually put to the British people, it is likely that, as in 1975, the result will be resoundingly positive.

The author is chairman of Northern Foods.



See it Germany's way

Kohl's predicament is like Bismarck's. Let's not make the same mistakes again

William Rees-Mogg

Whatever European policy we want to follow, Germany is the country with which we must in the end reach agreement; that would be true even in the extreme instance of Britain deciding to disengage from the European Union. At present, the German economy is going through a difficult period, with its highest unemployment since the 1930s. German industry has extremely high labour costs. Companies are investing massively overseas, exporting jobs in order to avoid the costs of German labour. German taxes are among the highest in Europe, and the attempts to reform social expenditure and taxation have achieved disappointingly little. Nevertheless, Germany is the geographical heartland of Europe, with the largest population and the most powerful economy.

The British need to understand the cultural and historical experience of Germany if we are to establish a more sympathetic relationship. In some ways, the British and the Germans, who are both Nordic and Protestant, have cultures much more like each other than either is to the big nations of the Latin and Catholic tradition, France, Italy and Spain. Yet Britain largely fails to understand the German attitude towards the future of Europe, and Germany largely fails to understand why the British public reacts as it does. In particular we should try harder to understand the achievements as well as the disasters of German history; the two hang together.

In the past 200 years, the Germans have experienced the shock of three great military defeats, first by Napoleon, then in 1918 and in 1945. Britain has not experienced anything remotely comparable to these devastating events. In each case, the Germans made a national response to the impact of defeat. In the 19th century, they developed a nationalist philosophy of the State, particularly in the writings of Fichte and Hegel, and worked, almost throughout the century, towards the unification of Germany. This was accomplished by Bismarck in the 1860s and 1870s. The Prussian-led Empire which Bismarck created was itself overthrown by defeat in 1918; that was followed by the financial collapse of the 1923 hyperinflation and the industrial collapse of the world slump in the early 1930s. The response in the 1930s was to take the cult of the State a stage further, leading to Hitler's dictatorship. The Nazis added a much more extreme doctrine of the authority of the leader, the *Führerprinzip*, and a naïve, neo-Darwinist doctrine of competitive racial survival. Their conduct was incredibly brutal.

This regime led inevitably to the catastrophe of 1945. After the war, the Germans adopted the political doctrine of the victors, just as they had imitated Napoleon. They were particularly under the influence of the United States and the occupation of the American Zone. They then applied their traditional virtues of thoroughness and efficiency to making the new democratic state work well. With the break up of the Soviet Union and the reunification of Germany in 1989, this post-1945 response could be seen a historic success, just as the defeat of France in 1870 was the culmination of the Bismarck era.

The British have found it difficult to recognise the quality of this post-war success, and the solid virtues that were needed to produce it. Germans are rightly proud of the achievement of the past 50 years. Since 1945, Germany has been democratic, co-operative, productive and helpful to all the other nations of Europe. Britain's post-war record includes the withdrawal from Empire with extraordinarily little conflict and the economic liberalisation of the 1980s; that is by no means a bad achievement, but Germany's has been the greater of the two.

There are parallels between the situations of Chancellor Kohl's Germany and Bismarck's. In the 1870s, Germany suffered a severe industrial recession, in the 1880s Bismarck regarded Germany as a largely satisfied power, and his diplomacy was intended to protect his achievements. That phase of history ended in 1890, when Bismarck was dismissed by the young Kaiser Wilhelm II. The most notable thing about the Kaiser was that he did not know what to do next; his neurotic adventurism stemmed from both the instability of an insecure and disagreeable character and the absence of an agreed historic context.

Now Germany has come to another historic crossroads. Helmut Kohl wants to protect and perpetuate his achievements. He sees the monetary and political unification of Europe as the best way to do that. Yet sooner or later the grand old man will go. What should Germany do next? Of course it is not the great power that it was in the 1890s: then Germany was the dominant military power of the world's dominant continent: now it is a modest non-nuclear military power in a Europe that is certainly running behind America and probably behind Asia as well. What Germany does is not as important as it was a hundred years ago, but it is still important to Europe. Fear of Germany is not justified, but any other European country has to come to terms with the reality of German influence.

Last week, Professor Michael Stürmer, who runs a think-tank near Munich, was speaking in London about the problems of the single currency. He favours the single currency but sees the difficulties quite clearly. He believes that a single currency would promote world financial stability and help Germany as an exporting nation. In London he pointed to two contradictions. The first is that the Germans regard the mark as the symbol of Germany's post-war success; the euro would have to be as good as the mark for them to accept it. German industry wants a relatively soft euro, believing that a euro that devalued the mark would help industry to export.

The second contradiction lies in Professor Stürmer's fear that the French will blame the Germans for a euro which the French associate with high unemployment, while the Germans will blame the French for a euro that is softer than the mark. If France wins control of the European Central Bank, that will signal a politicised euro, which the Germans are determined not to have.

Beyond Professor Stürmer's analysis lies an even more fundamental question. Britain is not going to join the single currency, at least not in the first round. Yet it will be hard to keep Italy and Spain out. If the euro goes ahead, Germany will be the leader of a single currency, with a Latin majority of an unstable financial history. The currency markets will see Germany as the guarantor of a euro which is much weaker than the mark. This is not only a currency question, but the main European question. Who will pay the bills?

Each of the large European nations wants something different. The Germans want to create a Europe that preserves the very great post-war achievements of Germany. They want a currency as good as the mark and a political constitution for Europe remarkably like their own federal constitution. They want a Europe on the German model, but not at German expense.

The French want a Franco-centric Europe, dominated by the skills of the French civil service. They are prepared to have a Europe which is German in form, because they think they can make it French in practice. The Italians want Europe to solve the political problems they have not been able to solve for themselves; they would also be happy to create Italian debts at German rates of interest. The Spanish like the European subsidies. Britain wants to remain an independent island nation while being part of the European system. France and Britain, in their different ways, both have an independent but nationalist point of view; Italy and Spain belong to a much more dependent culture.

The problem is to reconcile these different national objectives. The single currency proposal has made that more difficult. It is dividing rather than uniting Europe. What is certain is that nothing permanent can be achieved unless it satisfies Germany's interests and reassures German public opinion. After the election, Britain and Germany should at least try to talk out these national hopes and fears. In 1889, shortly before he fell, Bismarck put out feelers for an Anglo-German entente; Lord Salisbury turned them down because he thought they would be anti-French. That mistake may have led, 25 years later, to the First World War. In 1997 Britain and Germany each need to develop an imaginative sympathy for the other's historic point of view. At present neither country is very good at doing that.

Spare us political justice

Magnus Linklater on the need for judicial discretion

The honesty shown by Mr Justice Alliott was refreshing. After a month's trial, a full rehearsal of the evidence in court, and a conclusive verdict from the jury, he admitted that he "still did not know the whole truth" about the murder of Eve Howells. Yesterday, having given himself an extra day to listen to background reports from defence counsel, he confirmed the sentences and said that in his view Mrs Howells's husband, David, bore more of the responsibility than their two sons, Glenn and John.

Here was a judge exercising discretion — not so much with what Edmund Burke described as "the cold neutrality of an impartial judge", but rather with the humanity of one concerned by the wider interests of justice. I guess that most of Judge Alliott's colleagues on the Bench approved of his action, however unusual. Their responsibilities, after all, do not end with the sentence: there is the nature of the punishment to consider, and that raises a wide range of questions. Is it right, for instance, to remand a 19-year-old woman on her first drug offence to a prison with a long record of suicides? Should a young tearaway on his third burglary be sent to join two hardened old lags in an overcrowded cell? Some judges — not many — go to the trouble of visiting the prisons to which they send those they have sentenced. It tempers the decisions they make; it makes for better justice.

That, however, is a million miles from the theme running through the Government's Crime (Sentencing) Bill, which comes before the Lords again today, or the Scottish Crime and Punishment Bill, which was debated on Tuesday. Both are informed more by retribution rather than by reason. The scope of judges to vary a sentence on the basis of individual cases is to be severely curtailed. On parole and remission, on automatic life sentences for certain offences, and on mandatory minimum sentences for repeat burglars and drug-dealers — all areas where judges have traditionally exercised discretion — the punishment will be decreed by statute. The implication of both Bills is clear: judges can no longer be trusted to deal with the criminal element in our society; or, as the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham, put it, judges are held to be "for some unexplained reason indifferent to crime".

It is an extraordinary notion, but one that influences both the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and the Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth. They believe that current sentencing policy favours the criminal at the expense of the victim to such an extent that the public is "scandalised" by it. The hostility of judges to the new Bills merely demonstrates how out of touch they are with popular opinion. Reform is urgently required.

But if that is right, then the Government has been extraordinarily inconsistent. As recently as 1993, as the Scottish judge Lord McCluskey pointed out in the Lords this week, a very different set of measures was introduced. The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings Act set out standards of sentencing and parole in Scotland which harmonised with those in England, and were, in the view of the Government at the time, in the best interests of prisoners, prison officials and the public. This came after a long period of consultation, and confirmed a sentencing policy that allowed some criminals to serve as little as a half or two-thirds of their sentence. Now, it seems, just three years later, the public has become suspicious of such laxity.

So what has happened in the meantime? It is not as if our jails are being emptied of criminals. Britain has the highest prison population in Europe, and it is growing so fast that very soon there will be a need to commission floating prison ships to accommodate it. This prison population is likely to become a cauldron of resentment with the virtual abolition of parole and the introduction of longer sentences. There is no sign that judges have become more lenient. On the contrary, they, as much as ministers, are only too aware of the risks they run in handing down sentences which are deemed too light. Nor is there anything in the crime statistics to suggest that in three years Britain has become intolerably violent.

The answer lies, depressingly, in the Government's need to demonstrate that it is tough on law and order — and the Opposition's reluctance to challenge it. This leaves the judges to defend themselves. So far they are making a good fist of it, with defeats for the Government in the Lords, and an undoubted superiority when it comes to rhetoric. Lord McCluskey calls the legislation "arbitrary, ill-informed and populist". And Lord Bingham declares that "if our people's thinking is to be judged by the thinking which animates this Bill, I for one will shrink from the judgment of history".

In the end, however, most opinion will be less influenced by the stirring sounds of a constitutional battle than by the simple question of fairness. On the whole I would still prefer to be judged and sentenced by Mr Justice Alliott on the merits of my case than by the political instincts of Messrs Howard and Forsyth.

THE TIMES DIARY

Swanning in

THE TALK at the ballet barre concerns Diana, Princess of Wales. She is said to be a contender for the part of one of the 70 swans at an audition this Friday for a gala performance by the English National Ballet of *Swan Lake* at the Albert Hall in the summer.

The Princess is hoping to attend the selection audition of the swans at the Kensington rehearsal rooms of the ballet. Diana is a patron of the company and a close friend of its director, Derek Deane, and she has long shown a deep interest in dance.

The performance in June will star Altynai Asyl Muratova, the top tutu at the Kirov, who is considered by many to be the best female dancer in the world. Diana's experience extends to a twirl with Wayne Sleep and some moshing around while listening to Dr Feelgood on her Walkman.

"There will be more swans in this production than ever before, and we hope the Princess will appear on stage," says a balletomane friend of Diana's. "She is planning to come to the audition and something may well come of it. Whatever happens she will be at the Albert Hall on the night."

- *Detention is in order for Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers. Yesterday* The Times *reported his attack on government plans to sack teachers if their pupils perform badly: "To call this latest measure Victorian or draconian is an insult to Victoria and Dracula." Er, what? "Doesn't Dracula come from Draconian?" asked a confused de Gruchy yesterday. Had there been more classics in schools, he might have known about Draco the ancient Athenian legislator. "Perhaps I should have stuck to Victoria," he conceded.*

"For the last time, I don't know why Italian footballers are better looking"

Home turf

AFTER months of roaming the hotels of Knightsbridge, the Italy and Chelsea footballer Gianluca Vialli has found a permanent pad close to Sloane Square. Vialli looked at it in August, but months of renovations and waiting for his girlfriend's approval mean he only decided to take it, as England took on Italy last night.

The flat has three bedrooms, two bathrooms and according to his agent, Atholl Still, is "modest". It is close to Vialli's preferred Italian restaurants, San Lorenzo, a favourite of the Princess of Wales, and L'Incontro, where the owner, Gino "as in Ginelli" Santini, is thrilled. "Gianluca is a close friend and it's great to have him near. He comes in twice a week, but takes care of himself. Tiramisu and no grappa."

Old look

FASHIONABLE society holds no fears for Eric Newby, soldier, writer and conqueror of the Hindu Kush. At a reception on Tuesday night at the Imperial War Museum to mark the 50th anniversary of Christian Dior's "New Look" exhibition, Field Marshal Lord Bramall gave the opening address. "Who is this geezer, anyway?", demanded Newby, sloping off to find a chair as Bramall recalled his days on the parade ground.

Eric Newby: selectively impressed

Next up was the Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottomley. Newby's verdict: "I think she rather likes the sound of her own voice."

Relief came in the form of Darcey Bussell, prima ballerina at the Royal Ballet, whose message was brief. "What's her name?" slavered Newby. "Could you write it down for me?"

- *Reports that Elton John would be giving two concerts in Hong Kong to mark the colony's handover to the Chinese appear to be premature. Sadly for the Governor, Chris Patten, who is something of a fan, the gigs will not be taking place because John's amplifiers are too loud for Hong Kong's noise restrictions.*

Heart to heart

ROMANTIC of the week in this most romantic of weeks is Fred Ingrams, son of the former *Private Eye* Editor Richard — who is himself living with a young blonde of recent acquaintance.

Fred, a divorcee and terrific painter is 33 on St Valentine's Day and is engaged to Laura Arie, with whom he has set up a design company Arie & Ingrams. The couple met at *House & Garden*, where both worked in the design department. To mark their commitment, they will tomorrow present each other with silver gilt loving cups adorned with cockle heart shells.

Romantics: Ingrams and Arie

P·H·S

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13 1997 2W SL

Jobless figure at lowest in six years

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE number of jobless fell to 1,815,300 in January, the lowest level for six years, giving a rate of 6.5 per cent. The fall was the second-biggest seasonally adjusted reduction since modern unemployment records began in January 1971.

Adjusted unemployment is now down by 1,165,800 since its peak in December 1992, and is down by 391,500 over the past year alone.

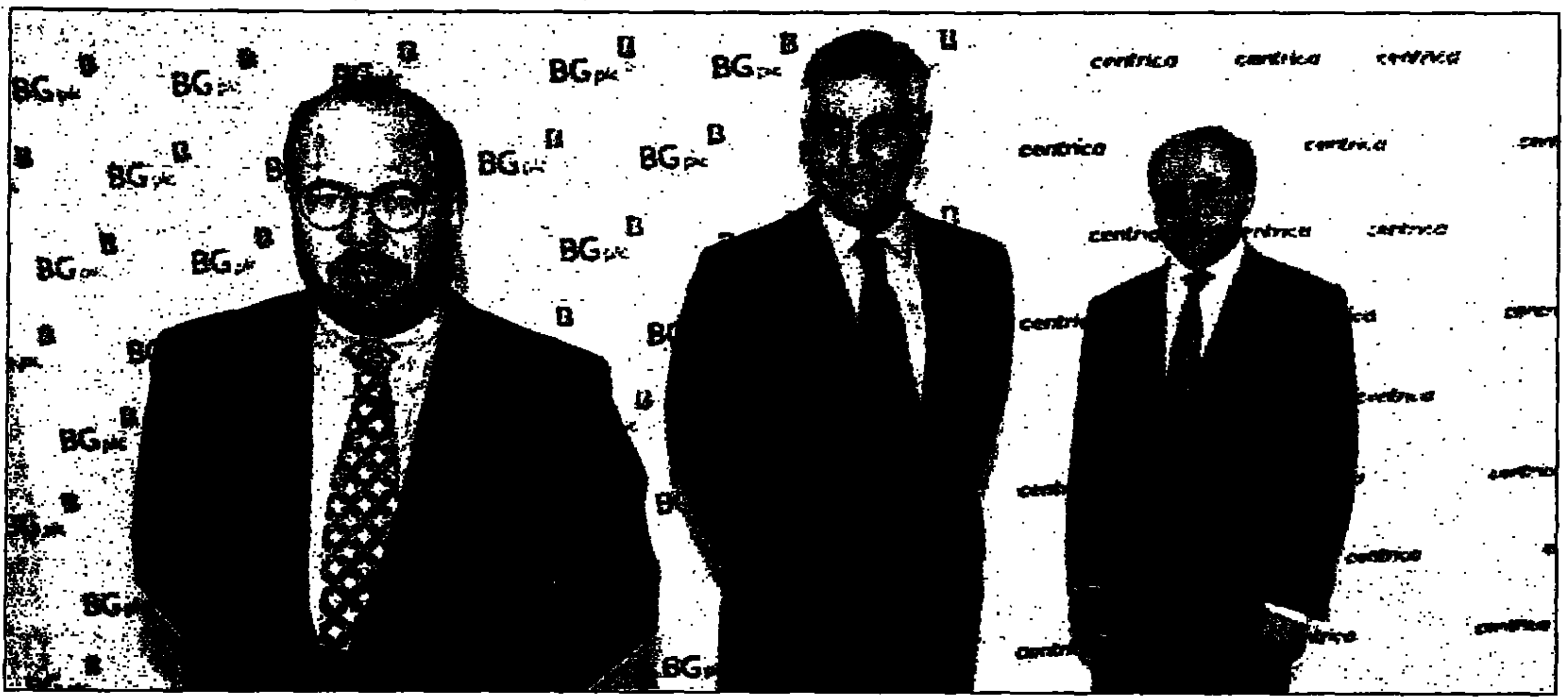
However, unadjusted unemployment — the precise number of people out of work and claiming benefit — rose, by 39,550 to 1,907,756. A large seasonal adjustment factor of 107,200 for January, when many people lose temporary jobs after Christmas, led to the fall in the adjusted total.

Whitehall officials again suspended estimation of the falling trend in unemployment, mainly because of so far unquantifiable effects on the claimant count of the introduction of the Job Seekers Allowance (JSA). Since the JSA came in, the average monthly fall in unemployment has leapt to 63,900, against 19,300 over the previous six months and 16,100 over the previous 12 months.

Labour attacked the JSA effect on the count. David Blunkett, the party's employment spokesman, issued a 12-page analysis of it, and said: "137,000 people have disappeared from the claimant count since October 1996, not because they have found a job but solely as a result of the introduction of JSA."

The drop substantially exceeded market expectations, and City analysts also criticised the JSA effect. Kevin Darlington, of Hoare Govett, said that the JSA "means these numbers come with a health warning".

Pennington, page 29



Richard Giordano, centre, with David Varney, left, chief executive of BG, and Roy Gardiner, chief executive of Centrica, in Birmingham yesterday

Clarke rebuffs Bank's calls for higher rates

BY JANET BUSH AND PHILIP WEBSTER

KENNETH CLARKE insisted yesterday that there was no need to increase base rates even as the Bank of England repeated its calls for tighter money.

The Chancellor's determination to neutralise the message of the Bank of England's latest *Inflation Report*, published yesterday, was clear in his decision to give a number of high-profile radio and television interviews as well as to comment at length on the Wirral South campaign trail.

In its *Inflation Report*, the Bank repeated its call for a modest rise in rates. As expected, the Bank revised upwards its longer-term forecast for underlying inflation to about 3 per cent "and rising" at the end of its two-year forecasting period. This is well above the Government's target of 2.5 per cent or less. This assumption, as always in the *Inflation Report*, is based on unchanged interest rates.

However, Mervyn King, the Bank's director of economics, admitted that he does not know how large a rise in rates is needed and that sterling's sharp rise has created "huge uncertainty" in the short-term outlook.

Howard Davies, deputy governor, said on Tuesday that the Chancellor and the Bank only disagreed over a quarter point, an assertion confirmed by Mr Clarke. The Chancellor said: "The Governor and myself have a slight difference of opinion about where inflation will be in a couple of years' time and I reckon he's a quarter of 1 per cent wrong." He said the economy was recovering extremely strongly, but showed no signs of speeding up and that he was not at the stage where he had to put the monetary brakes on.

It appears that the Bank's view of rates has, if anything, softened since late last year. At the December monetary meeting, the Bank said that if the Chancellor refused to raise rates by a quarter point it would then push for a half-point rise in January and February. Now it seems that the debate revolves around only a quarter point again.

The key area of disagreement is over the impact of the exchange rate, which the Chancellor has repeatedly described as very deflationary. The Bank said the outlook for inflation in the short term had improved since November, since when sterling has risen 7 per cent. It now forecasts that underlying inflation will drop to a trough of well below 2.5 per cent in the second half of this year. It is then forecast to rise throughout 1998.

The Bank said that, in the short run, sterling's rise would lead to a fall in inflation as import prices fell. This, it argues, is primarily a one-off impact on domestic prices rather than a continuing force reducing the underlying rate of inflation. After that, sterling's strength is likely to continue to damp down inflation because it will cut net trade, but the extent of this will depend on why the pound has risen and therefore how long it will remain strong. Overall, the Bank is assuming that the pound's rise is temporary.

Alistair Darling, Shadow Chief Secretary, said the dispute between Mr Clarke and the Governor called into question the strength of the recovery. "What is clear from what the Governor is saying is that he doesn't believe the Chancellor is going to meet his inflation target by the end of this Parliament, something he has always promised.

"The dispute between the Governor and the Chancellor of the Exchequer not only exposes the fundamental weaknesses in the British economy, but it is also deeply destabilising and it does cast doubt on whether this recovery can last."

British Gas job cuts out of control

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH GAS yesterday admitted that job losses at the company had run out of control and revealed that by the end of this month it will have cut 35,000 jobs since 1993. The toll overshoots the original target set out four years ago by 10,000. It is also 5,000 more than a revised plan outlined 18 months ago.

Richard Giordano, chairman, detailed the job losses at the extraordinary meeting in Birmingham to approve the demerger of British Gas into two companies. Only a handful of shareholders showed dissenting voting cards to the resolution. More than 330,000 Sids had voted by proxy on the demerger, voting ten to one in favour. The opponents were largely rallied by Noel Falconer, long-time antagonist of the British Gas board and a proponent of waiting before demerging.

British Gas will, from Monday, become two companies — Centrica, the gas supply business with a stake in the Morecambe Bay gasfield, and BG, the TransCo and international activities business.

Further job cuts have been threatened by the company, depending on the outcome of pricing controls for the pipelines business, which are before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr Giordano conceded that the job losses had run too quickly to maintain important skills in the business and had led to a lot of British Gas's service problems.

He said that the large redundancy programme meant jobs disappeared from the business at too fast a pace to maintain service levels. "It had got out of control" Mr Giordano said after the meeting.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4304.3	(n/c)
Yield	3.61%	
FTSE All share	2097.69	(-0.83)
Nikkei	18409.96	(+228.79)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6961.63	(+103.52)
S&P Composite	802.77	(+13.18)
US RATE		
Federal Funds	$4\frac{1}{2}$%	(5%)
Long Bond	$97\frac{9}{32}$	($97\frac{11}{32}$)
Yield	6.71%	(6.71%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{3}{16}$%	($6\frac{3}{16}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	$113\frac{1}{2}$	($113\frac{5}{16}$)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.6313	(1.6370)
London:		
$	1.6335	(1.6424)
DM	2.7495	(2.7462)
FFr	9.2897	(9.2672)
SFr	2.3613	(2.3547)
Yen	202.30	(202.13)
£ Index	98.2	(98.2)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.6893	(1.6773)
FFr	5.7020	(5.6603)
SFr	1.4535	(1.4475)
Yen	124.25	(123.30)
$ Index	103.6	(103.1)

Tokyo close Yen 124.18

NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Apr)	$21.80	($20.75)
GOLD		
London close	$341.05	($339.55)

Wall Street above 6,900

Wall Street soared last night taking the Dow Jones industrial average above the 6,900 mark for the first time. By the close the Dow was up 103.52 points at 6961.63, a record close.

The previous high was reached on January 21 when the Dow closed at 6,883.90. In the broader market the Standard & Poor's and the NYSE composite indexes also set new highs. Markets, page 30

Financial services in store at Tesco

BY MARTIN WALLER

TESCO will today fire the latest shot in the supermarket wars with the launch of an in-store service to provide both a credit card and a range of financial services, including mortgages, in a joint venture with the Royal Bank of Scotland.

At the heart of the scheme is the Royal Bank's Direct Line insurance subsidiary. Customers of Tesco will be able to obtain online insurance and other financial products at special outlets in selected stores at the same time as they buy their groceries.

The plans have been under development for months, but both companies had hoped to keep them under wraps until the official launch. Terry Leahy, Tesco's chief executive, refused to respond to calls from *The Times* last night.

The news comes days after Safeway launched its own debit card and J Sainsbury was awarded a banking licence. Tesco's plans are thought to include a new card that will allow goods to be bought on credit and pay interest on customers' balances.

This is similar to Safeway's ABC Bonus Account card, operated in conjunction with the Abbey National, but Tesco is hoping to regain the lead among the supermarkets selling financial services through the Direct Line connection.

Under the leadership of Peter Wood, now a consultant with the business, Direct Line has built up a commanding lead in the provision of insurance services by telephone.

Tesco already has a debit card provided by the National Westminster, but this does not provide a credit facility. Sainsbury is likely to launch its own bank by the end of this month in conjunction with the Royal Bank's rival, the Bank of Scotland.

Wood: consultant

Toymaker outlaws Barbie disc

BY JASON NISSÉ

THE prospect has been raised of lawyers from Mattel, the toymaker, reclaiming CD-Roms from children's computers after it took out a restraining order to prevent sales or distribution of a game called *Barbie and her Magic Horse*.

Mattel claims that the game, which is not made by its recently formed interactive offshoot, infringes the trademark for its doll. Mattel has been launching its own computer games, including *Barbie Fashion*.

Lovell White Durrant, Mattel's lawyer, has taken out an injunction against six leading toy and computer products retailers, including Dixons and Toys 'R' Us. It stops them selling *Barbie and Her Magic Horse* and demands that they destroy all their stocks and supply the names and addresses of anyone to whom it has sold the CD-Rom.

Neither Lovell White Durrant nor Mattel would discuss why they had asked for this information and would not comment on whether they would be trying to reclaim the CD-Roms from customers.

National Power in pension action

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

NATIONAL POWER has issued a summons against the nine trustees of its pension scheme in an attempt to get legal approval for its use of pension surpluses in 1993 and 1996.

The highly unusual move follows last week's ruling by Julian Farrand, the Pensions Ombudsman, against National Grid. Dr Farrand ordered National Grid to pay back £46.3 million of surpluses it had used to fund redundancies and early retirements. The ruling has landed the electricity industry with a potential £1 billion bill.

According to the summons, National Power used some of the surplus to take a contributions holiday from the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme (ESPS).

The ESPS, which has more than 218,000 members and assets exceeding £14 billion, produced more money than it needed to meet its obligations in 1992 and again in 1995.

It has been a matter of great controversy whether such surpluses belong to companies sponsoring schemes or the schemes' members.

National Power would not say how much it had taken from the scheme or whether it had used the surpluses to pay for redundancies. However, latest available figures show that the number of employees contributing to the scheme has fallen from 10,000 to 4,452 in the past five years. The scheme has £2.3 billion in assets.

The company also denied that it was preventing the scheme's 30,000 members from complaining to Dr Farrand. However, the Pensions Ombudsman's office confirmed that it was unable to investigate cases under legal action.

Both sides were unaware of any complaints having been made by former or existing National Power employees.

National Power added that it was seeking clarification in the interests of the company, employees and pensioners.

National Power is the first of the 21 power companies to go to law since the decision, although National Grid is likely to appeal against the Ombudsman later this month.

The summons was issued by Linklaters & Paines, National Power's solicitor. Among the trustees it names are Hugh Feldon, Raymond Smith and Roger Witcomb.

Millennium exhibition job for Muirhead

BY JASON NISSÉ

BILL MUIRHEAD, one of the founders of M&C Saatchi, the advertising agency which invented the "New Labour, New Danger" slogan for the Conservatives, has been brought in to help the Millennium exhibition at Greenwich as director of communications.

Mr Muirhead will go on secondment from M&C, but will be paid by the new company being set up to run the exhibition, Millennium Central. His salary, being paid out of a budget expected to include £200 million of lottery funding, has not been disclosed, but he is one of the best-paid people in the advertising business.

While at Saatchi & Saatchi, which he left dramatically two years ago, he ran the US operation and was paid an annual salary of $550,000, plus a car, a free apartment in one of the best areas of New York and a bonus equal to 1 per cent of new business won for the agency.

The role at Millennium Central has been created by Bob Ayling, the British Airways chief executive who is also chairman of Millennium Central. Mr Ayling is a close friend of Lord Saatchi, who was recently made a working Conservative peer, and BA is one of the main clients of M&C.

Jenny Page, the former head of the Millennium Commission, has also been tempted to Millennium Central, where she is now chief executive.

Her move came only weeks before the commission met to decide whether to grant the project the lottery funding it needs to get off the ground. Meanwhile Mr Ayling and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minster, have been approaching business leaders to try to elicit their support for the project.

Pennington, page 29

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Gas does splits to genial round of complaints

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SHAREHOLDERS of British Gas convening in Birmingham yesterday to approve the company's demerger were in comparatively genial mood, compared with the wholesale anger of two years ago when Cedric Brown, the chief executive, was in danger of being lynched.

Richard Giordano faced just one attempt to oust him as chairman, another to stop him chairing the Birmingham meeting and a stream of complaints over customer service. Opening the floor to questions from the 470 shareholders, his plea to them "not to devote time to individual service complaints" sounded unduly optimistic — this was the company that harassed thousands of customers with red reminders without the courtesy of an initial bill; that left customers on service contracts with non-functioning central heating systems in the depths of winter; and answered the phone within a reasonable period only 40 per cent of the time.

The first move to get Mr Giordano, knight of the British Empire for services to industry, removed as chairman was made by Neville Goldrein, a former Conservative council leader on Merseyside, who has had a running battle with British Gas over direct debit problems for nearly a year. To applause from around the room he accused Mr Giordano of heading a management that had led the company to ineptitude.

Next came Simon Israel, from London, who accused Mr Giordano, a former New York lawyer, of "arrogance and bullying tactics". Mr Giordano survived both attempts. He must be looking forward to the chairmanship of BG — the rump of British Gas minus its domestic customers.

British Gas will be hoping that in its incarnation as Centrica, the retail division can begin to put its problems behind it and work at establishing a company that is not a laughing stock for service. But some shareholders believe those problems should have been addressed before British Gas decided to split its interests.

BCC joins 'neutrals' in run-up to election

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN faces the most crucial election for business in decades, leaders of chambers of commerce said yesterday as they set out a business agenda for an incoming government.

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) also became the latest business organisation not to endorse the Conservatives, preferring instead to adopt a strictly politically neutral stance in the run-up to the election campaign.

The BCC's declaration of political neutrality is in line with similar statements from the Confederation of British Industry and even the free-market Institute of Directors.

BCC leaders acknowledged that the majority of small firms which affiliated to local chambers of commerce would probably tend to be Conservative supporters, although they also said it was likely that some managers and owners of the 100,000 member companies would support Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

Ministers regard the adoption of political neutrality by Britain's principal business bodies as giving support to Labour, which they feel sure individual companies do not feel. But BCC leaders denied that in not endorsing the programme of any one political party they were undermining what the Conservatives have seen previously as a natural area of support.

Ian Peters, BCC deputy director-general, said: "We are not interested in arguing the case for any one party. We want every political party to respond to the business agenda."

Dr Peters described the coming poll as "one of the most crucial elections for business in decades" and added: "Whatever the result of the election, politicians must listen to business if the health of the British economy is to be sustained and progressed."

Business leaders and politicians will examine the prospects for business under a Labour government at a conference held by the Adam Smith Institute. But before today's conference the BCC published 12 detailed policy briefs, covering key issues for business in the coming election, and urged the political parties to tailor their programmes to meet the needs of business.

They included calls for macroeconomic stability, investment in training and education, a "positive" role in Europe, retention of the social chapter opt-out and rejection of a minimum wage, maintenance of the UK's business support network and further progress on deregulation, especially on tax.

Siebe offers £46m for Whessoe

SIEBE, the engineering company, has revealed a £46 million agreed bid for Whessoe, the manufacturing group based in northeast England. The surprise bid values Whessoe at 155p a share, against a closing price of 90p on Tuesday.

A share alternative to the cash bid will offer 31 new Siebe shares for each 200 Whessoe.

Whessoe's fortunes have been rising since a subsidiary, Coggins Systems, won an order from the US defence department.

Whessoe shares closed 65½p up, at 155½p. Siebe shares fell 25p, to 964½p.

Tempus, page 30

TONY WHITE

Bob Ellis, left, chief executive of Visual Action Holdings, and Digby Davies, finance director, reported a 20 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £8.3 million for 1996. There is a final dividend of 2.9p, which makes a maiden total of 4.1p.

Earnings growth at highest for four years

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GROWTH in average earnings is running at its highest level for four years, government figures showed yesterday.

The rise, coupled with continuing big drops in the jobless figures, has increased fears of a rise in interest rates and prompted speculation about how far unemployment could continue to fall without stoking up inflation.

Although technically underlying average earnings growth remained unchanged in the year to December at 4.25 per cent, according to figures from the Office for National Statistics, the level was masked by an upward revision to the figure for November.

The overall earnings growth figure is now at its highest since February 1993.

Underlying growth of earnings in manufacturing industry rose for the first time in five months — also by a quarter point to 4.75 per cent, its highest level since May 1995.

Earnings in the production sector saw their second consecutive monthly rise — now up a full half-point in two months, also to 4.75 per cent, which is their highest level since July 1995.

But productivity is also rising fast, with output per head in manufacturing 1.3 per cent higher in the three months ending December compared with a similar period a year earlier. This is the largest rise since August 1994, and productivity is now at its highest level since August 1995.

City analysts saw the rise in average earnings as an increase in inflationary pressures.

Ronson ties up £200m Heron deal

GERALD RONSON, chief executive of the Heron property group, confirmed that he is on the comeback trail yesterday with a £200 million deal to develop a 500 acre site in South Wales (Sarah Cunningham writes).

It is the second big deal in recent weeks for Mr Ronson, who was jailed for six months in 1990 for his part in the Guinness affair. In December Mr Ronson announced a £100 million property investment and development programme in Spain and the United Kingdom.

According to a Heron spokesman, the two deals are "the tip of the iceberg" and other large projects in the UK and continental Europe are on their way. On the continent, the company is understood to be most keen on projects in France and Spain. Heron also has ambitions in the UK and was one of the groups interested in buying Canary Wharf in London.

In South Wales, Heron Land Developments, a subsidiary of Heron International, plans to develop 2,000 new homes and 2.5 million sq ft of industrial and commercial space on the site, which is near Chepstow.

The company believes the project could create up to 2,500 jobs over the next seven years. The scheme includes plans for a bypass for Chepstow.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

C&W nets £40m in Swedish disposal

CABLE AND WIRELESS yesterday sold half of its stake in a Swedish telecommunications company for £46 million as it sheds peripheral investments before the launch of Cable and Wireless Communications. The sale of 5.5 per cent of NetCom Systems, which owns Tele2, Sweden's second-largest phone company, and Comviq GSM, a mobile phone operation, resulted in a net gain of £40 million for C&W. The company retains a 4.6 per cent stake, but will probably sell it this year.

Stephen Pettit, director of C&W's European operations, said the sale was timed to take advantage of the strong recent performance of NetCom shares. C&W is getting rid of investments in telecoms companies over which it has little control. It wants to divert its financial and management resources to the creation of Cable and Wireless Communications, the merger of Mercury Communications and the Nynex, Bell CableMedia and Videotron cable companies. CWC is to be floated on the Stock Exchange in the spring.

Rexam agrees US sale

REXAM, the UK materials and packaging group, has agreed to sell the assets and operations of Otis Specialty Papers, a US subsidiary, to Wausau Paper Mills for about £36 million. The disposal, and that of a smaller Indonesian business called PT Rexam Mulox to Bulkpak, form part of a planned divestment programme, announced last year and intended to shed businesses with a combined annual turnover of £303 million. Otis had turnover of £54 million.

Coffee price rises

COFFEE prices reached a 15-month high yesterday but cocoa moved sharply lower. The International Coffee Organisation's daily coffee market indicator price jumped to $1.2211 a pound from $1.1950, the highest level since mid-November 1995. Coffee prices have now risen by 33.4 per cent since the start of the year. The International Cocoa Organisation's daily market indicator was $1,349.64 a ton yesterday, down from $1,364.65 and the lowest level since last March.

Telecoms pact progress

A GLOBAL pact to liberalise the $600 billion telecoms trade is on track before Saturday's deadline, boosted by new offers from Canada and the European Union to open up markets further, negotiators said yesterday. The EU tabled a final and more liberal proposal and Canada offered to ease controls on its domestic satellite market, while more countries were expected to revise offers listing how far they are ready to open domestic markets to outside competition.

Record Holdings up

RECORD HOLDINGS, the manufacturer and distributor of metal and woodworking tools, increased pre-tax profits to £3.5 million from £2.95 million in 1996. Earnings were 6.4p a share (5.3p). The total dividend is lifted to 3.75p a share (3.6p), with a final 2.6p. The shares rose 6½p to 66½p. Trading conditions remained difficult and selling prices were hurt by the strength of sterling. Against this, profits benefited from further improvements in manufacturing efficiency.

Court victory for BA

BRITISH AIRWAYS won a decisive courtroom victory against John Gorman, who claims to have been fed broken glass by the airline during a flight and to have subsequently been the target of corporate bullying. Mr Gorman, who was seeking compensation, had his case thrown out of the Central London county court because he had failed to turn up for his original hearing last November and because of doubts over his medical evidence. Mr Gorman intends to appeal against the ruling.

ITT spurns Hilton bid

ITT has rejected Hilton Hotels' unsolicited $6.5 billion takeover offer as inadequate and not in the best interests of shareholders. It said the $55-a-share Hilton offer did not reflect the inherent value of ITT, which owns and operates Sheraton hotels and Caesars casinos in Nevada and New Jersey. On Tuesday, Hilton named 11 candidates for ITT's current board seats, and 14 others who could be added if ITT attempts to thwart its bid by boosting the number of board members.

PIA to shrink board

THE Personal Investment Authority, watchdog for firms that sell direct to the public, is to cut its board from 21 directors to 17 at its annual meeting, on July 8. Of the four leaving, Sir John Bailey and Sir Leonard Peach represent the "public interest" and Lawrence Churchill and Allan Daffern represent "practioners". Joe Palmer, chairman, said that the reduction would bring the board down to a more manageable size while maintaining adequate practitioner and public-interest input.

Eagle Star expands

EAGLE STAR INSURANCE (Ireland), a subsidiary of BAT, is acquiring Irish National Insurance from New Ireland Holdings for Ir£30 million. The acquisition will almost double Eagle Star's general insurance premium income in the Republic and will increase its market share to more than 10 per cent. The joint premium income of Eagle Star and Irish National was in excess of Ir£140 million in 1995. During that year Irish National earned pre-tax profits of Ir£3.2 million.

Clyde remains hopeful

CLYDE PETROLEUM claims it still has a chance of defeating the £494 million takeover bid from Gulf Canada Resources despite the bidder buying more shares in the market yesterday to lift its stake 1.9 per cent to 29.7 per cent. Malcolm Gourlay, Clyde chairman, said PDFM, which sold a 14 per cent stake on Tuesday, was always expected to sell. He said Norwich Union, Schroders and Capital Group, which together own about 36 per cent of Clyde, have yet to make up their minds.

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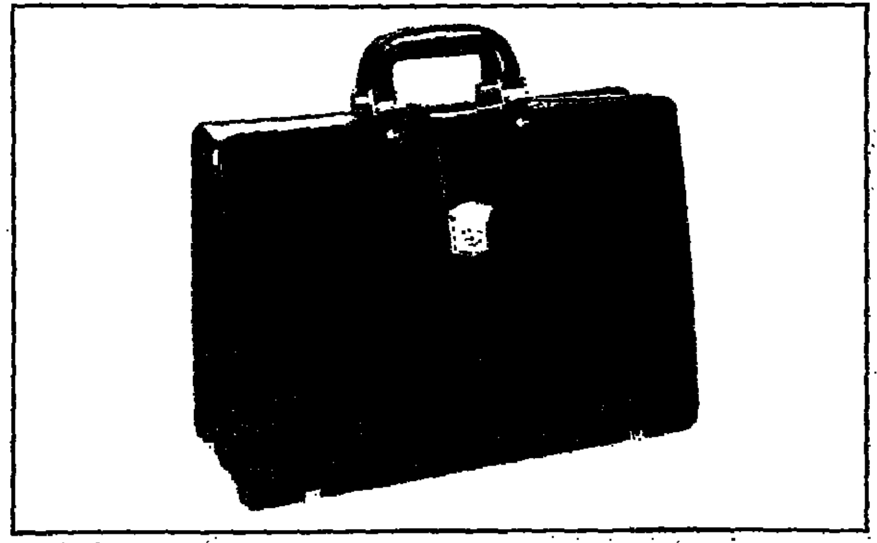

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DeLorean victory for Andersen

ARTHUR ANDERSEN, the accountancy firm, claimed another victory in the 12-year-old DeLorean case after a federal judge in the Southern District Court of New York ruled that the British Government would have to refile its claims in state court if it wanted to pursue the matter (Eric Reguly writes).

The Department of Economic Development issued a writ against the accountancy firm in 1985. It alleged conspiracy, fraud, negligence and incompetence in auditing DeLorean Motors, the Belfast sports car manufacturer that collapsed in 1982, wiping out the Government's £78 million investment.

Arthur Andersen has always maintained that the Government's political goals took priority over the factory's commercial risks.

Hearing against mother delayed

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

COUTTS, banker to the Queen, yesterday delayed bankruptcy proceedings against Rebecca Mills, a 41-year-old mother of three, after intervention by The Times.

The bank, which is reputed to have waived bank charges worth £500,000 on the Duchess of York's £4.3 million overdraft, had issued bankruptcy proceedings against Mrs Mills because of the actions of her husband, Sebastian, from whom she is now separated. Mrs Mills has never been a customer of Coutts.

Seven years ago she signed over the house in which she now lives and another property to her husband as security for his business.

The company later collapsed with debts of £172,000. Mr Mills is no longer in Britain. One of the properties has been repossessed by the Britannia Building Society.

The bankruptcy proceedings could have led to Mrs Mills losing the property in which she lives. That is estimated to be worth £70,000.

Mrs Mills, who receives income support, said: "There is already an outstanding debt to Barclays on this property so Coutts would have very little to gain by bankrupting me."

After a report earlier this week in The Times, Coutts has agreed to meet Mrs Mills to try to sort out the problems and has put off the bankruptcy hearing that was scheduled for today.

Coutts is refusing to comment about Mrs Mills.

Film division in the black while overall profits fall

Polygram roused by Sleepers

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

BOX office hits that included Trainspotting, Fargo and Sleepers helped Polygram's film division to move into profit for the first time last year although weak music growth held back overall profits at the entertainment company.

The film division turned in a small profit in the second half, halving full-year losses to 35 million guilders (£11 million). The company's best box office performer was Sleepers, which grossed $106 million, while the British film Trainspotting took $73 million worldwide. Fargo has been nominated for seven Oscars, including best film and best director. New films scheduled for release this year include Bean, with Rowan Atkinson, and Gingerbread Man, directed by Robert Altman and starring Kenneth Branagh.

Polygram — which is 75 per cent owned by Philips, the Dutch group — said profits fell 18 per cent after tax and extraordinary items to 608 million guilders. The company took a 114 million guilder charge for a restructuring of its music division that included moving the Motown record label from Los Angeles to New York.

Alain Levy, chief executive, blamed slower music industry growth and lower than expected sales from international pop stars for the decline. No Polygram artist sold more than five million albums last year, although To the Faithful Departed by The Cranberries sold 4.4 million copies and Bryan Adams's 18 till I die sold 3.9 million. The music division lifted sales by 5 per cent overall, selling a total of 34 million albums. But profits were hurt by a fall in margins as a result of retail pressures in the US and Europe.

New albums are scheduled for release this year by the Bee Gees, Elton John, U2, Pulp and Van Morrison.

Mr Levy said the music market in the US would remain difficult in the coming year and film operations would face heavy costs from the launch of the new US distribution operation. But he added that the company was optimistic that the benefits of its restructuring would feed through this year and that the company would return to long-term growth.

Tempus, page 30

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.28	2.10
Austria Sch	20.34	18.84
Belgium Fr	59.71	55.41
Canada $	2.325	2.165
Cyprus Cyp£	0.853	0.798
Denmark Kr	11.06	10.26
Finland Mkk	8.68	8.01
France Fr	9.69	9.04
Germany Dm	2.91	2.70
Greece Dr	447	421
Hong Kong $	13.31	12.31
Iceland	120	100
Ireland Pt	1.08	1.00
Israel Shk	5.76	5.10
Italy Lira	2824	2649
Japan Yen	217.00	201.00
Malta	0.650	0.605
Netherlds Gld	3.238	3.008
New Zealand $	2.54	2.32
Norway Kr	11.37	10.57
Portugal Esc	287.50	268.00
S Africa Rd	7.81	7.01
Spain Pta	243.50	228.50
Sweden Kr	12.80	12.00
Switzerland Fr	2.49	2.31
Turkey Lira	200500	186500
USA $	1.735	1.605

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13 1997

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

W nets £40m in edish disposal

xam agrees US sale

offee price rises

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TI spurns Hilton b

PIA to shrink board

Eagle Star expands

Clyde remains hope

leepers

☐ Confusion behind the official numbers ☐ Hospital plan not all it seems ☐ An adman calls . . .

Lies, and damned lies

☐ THERE used to be a terribly useful little book called *How to Lie with Statistics*. This went through all the tricks whereby black could be proven to be white by the selective mangling of the relevant numbers.

There must a be few copies lying around at the Office for National Statistics. The numbers on jobs and earnings are increasingly haywire, yet they are supposed to be the dials monitored on the bridge as they steer the ship of state.

In reality, Kenneth Clarke has shown himself happy to ignore those dials if they conflict with his own views on base rates, even if they point firmly to red. But let us set aside the traditional political shoulder-charging that now surrounds the unemployment figures. There were some worrying aspects to yesterday's bundle of labour market data.

First, the number of jobless. This is actually an administrative count of the number of people who have got through the bureaucracy, which is designed to head off a fixed percentage on the way, and claimed benefits. That they count the unemployed is a mere by-product.

The introduction of the Jobseeker's Allowance to replace the old benefit will take time to play through. No one, not even the Bank, let alone the squirming statisticians in Whitehall, can at this stage be sure of its effect.

What is clear, as the City realises, is that the jobless figures are even more hopelessly distorted than the politicians claim, and may remain so for months to come — to the annoyance of ministers, who want to proclaim a clear success on jobs in time for the election.

The distortion arrives thus. Of yesterday's 67,800 people who found jobs since the last monthly count, no one can say how many *thousands had previously* worked and claimed benefit and been forced out of the black economy by the JSA. As a measure of economic performance, the figure is meaningless. A new government, of whatever political hue, should swiftly introduce a monthly version of the currently quarterly Labour Force Survey count as an alternative — and better — way of measuring jobs.

The rise in earnings yesterday was also worrying, once you strip off the thin disguise in front of the figures. Increasingly, earnings increases are not charted month by month. The earnings figures remain unchanged, yet at the same time they increase.

How is this done? By revising the previous month's figure upwards, and then claiming that the latest month is in line with that revision. Result: higher earnings which never seem to rise. Pay increases at their highest level now for four years should really sound alarm bells for inflation and interest rates. *Or not. It all depends how you* chose to read the numbers.

PFI works — as a form of health fudge

☐ USE of the Private Finance Initiative in the health sector will lead to the privatisation of the NHS. So says received wisdom from the left. Labour has made it very clear that it does not feel bound by commitments made by the Tories to new hospitals built with PFI money.

For a long time that was only an empty threat. While builders have long been hacking through *rural hills and hedges to build* PFI motorways, the PFI hospitals have only just had their umbilical cords cut.

Tarmac won a contract to build a new hospital in south London this week. Others are close to birthing. Labour critics have been so quiet that they could be in the intensive care unit. Why are they no longer crying foul over such spending of what is public money?

The answer must be that Labour has rightly reinterpreted the PFI as a weapon against, rather than a tool in, the Tory's free market aims. Under the PFI, private companies spend funds on public sector capital projects. The funds are later reimbursed plus a healthy interest payment.

Rather than leading to the wholesale introduction of private companies into the health service, the PFI only cements the state's role in the provision of health care. Instead of the Government reducing its financial exposure towards the NHS, the PFI increases it.

So the scheme is an elaborate form of long-term government borrowing via construction companies and their banks — but at higher interest rates. The PFI also creates more bureaucracy and longer waiting lists because the Government demands that health authorities explore the use of PFI money before they tap public funds.

The privatisation of the NHS is the logical though not the necessary conclusion to the Tories' reforms. Whether this will or should happen is highly questionable. But the PFI is not the answer. *At best it is* a fudge.

Millennium vision

☐ *A CROSSED line yesterday allowed us to eavesdrop on a call from London's adland to the Palace of Westminster. Poor sound quality rendered only one side of the conversation audible.*

Michael! It's been too long. I agree, the red tears were not one *of our best, but there is something* about an Ulster accent that kind of wears you down, you know? Anyway, as they say in my game, the client loved it.

This Millennium is a vision thing. If you can look at a few acres of polluted land in Greenwich and see the future of Great Britain, you've got vision. Can I just run a few ideas past you? First, Greenwich. Not good, and we have the vox pops to prove it. This is south of the river, you know? Not too far from where John was brought up, and does that sound like a winner to you? Michael, all you are going to get is a few local yokels wandering around with their thumbs in their mouths and their wallets closed. Sorry to sound so uptight, Michael, but I just got back from there, and the traffic makes the Strand look like Route 66.

Second, this dome. Great idea, but a bit Sixties, you know, a bit Bucky Fuller? And you want to fill it with the Best of British? Best of British what? British coal, maybe? Sorry, Michael, I forgot. This is going to define your Government. Or maybe the next one. Sorry, that was tactless too. Anyway, what is your greatest achievement? Deregulation, Michael. Under the Tories *you can buy an aubergine at midnight. You can buy pecorino cheese on a Sunday afternoon.*

Michael, Millenium Central is a great name for an upmarket foodstore. Close to the West End or Knightsbridge? *Chefs* are the new rock-and-roll, right? Maybe Terry Conran — I know, but people change their minds. I love you, Michael. Trust me.

That other thing. We have field-tested it, and Michael Howard is, marketing-wise, a totally non-viable proposition. Ciao.

LAL raises provision as profits soar 30%

By Marianne Curphey, Insurance Correspondent

LLOYDS ABBEY LIFE, the bancassurance subsidiary of Lloyds TSB, has reported a 30 per cent increase in profits and has set aside extra cash to cover pensions mis-selling compensation.

The insurer said performance across all its divisions had improved, and pre-tax profits for the full year to December 31 were up from £422 million to £548 million. Figures for the previous year included a £35 million loss from the disposal of Trans Leben, LAL's German subsidiary.

The company has bolstered compensation provision for customers who might have been mis-sold personal pensions by almost £14 million, bringing the total provision to £98.6 million.

Yesterday's results will be the last separate declaration of results after the company became a wholly owned subsidiary of Lloyds TSB last December. LAL said it expected to make £50 million cost savings over three years and reiterated its interest in a mutual life insurer with distribution through independent financial advisers. It refused to say whether it intended to bid for Scottish Amicable.

Pre-tax profits from life assurance in Abbey Life Assurance and Black Horse Financial Services rose 23 per cent to £327 million (£266 million), while sales of life, pensions and unit trusts were up 16 per cent.

Lloyds Bank Insurance Services profits were up 44 per cent on increased loan volumes and share of underwriters' profits, while Black Horse Agencies, the estate agent, returned to profitability with pre-tax profits of £4 million. Although house exchanges were up 19 per cent on 1995, they are still 44 per cent below the 1988 peak.

New unit trust business, which includes the sale of personal equity plans, was up 56 per cent to £505 million (£323 million), with regular and single premium sales showing smaller rises.

Stephen Maran, LAL chief executive, said the rise in profits reflected a continuing focus on customer needs and increased operational efficiencies. Shares in Lloyds TSB rose 6½p to 498½p. Analysts were upbeat about the figures, saying prospects for this year and next looked attractive.

Maran: customer focus

Tempus, page 30

Cadbury wraps up purchase

By Alasdair Murray

CADBURY SCHWEPPES, the confectionary and soft drinks company, yesterday moved to grab a bigger piece of the Middle Eastern chocolate market with the purchase of Bim Bim, the leading Egyptian confectionary company.

Cadbury said that, combined with Cadbury Egypt, its existing company in the region, it would ensure market leadership and place the company in a strong position to benefit from further growth.

The price paid for the family-owned company was not disclosed, although Bim Bim is expected to show sales up 7 per cent in 1996 to £32 million. The company had net tangible assets valued at £35 million at the end of 1995.

Bim Bim has a 26 per cent share of the Egyptian market and exports throughout the region, giving it a 13 per cent share of the total Middle Eastern and North African market.

Cadbury also announced yesterday that it intends to redeem all its series three to six preference shares at the orginal issue price of $500,000. The total cost of redemption will be about £107 million and will be met from existing resources.

Ushers float expected to raise £40m

By Alasdair Murray

USHERS of Trowbridge, the regional brewer, is expected to raise about £40 million next month in a float predicted to value it at up to £130 million.

The company, which has 542 pubs, will use the money to reduce debt of £65 million and to invest in the business.

In a pathfinder prospectus out yesterday, Ushers said it would invest £6.7 million in its retail estate, and expected a rate of return to exceed the current target of 20 per cent.

Ushers said that it can double capacity for contract brewing at its Trowbridge site, for an estimated cost of £9 million. The company brews beers such as Miller Genuine Draft, as well as its own ales.

Ushers said that trading in the first three months of this year was running ahead of last year, with a significant rise in specialist contract brewing.

Venture capitalist backers will own 49 per cent of Ushers after flotation, and directors and staff 10 per cent. A final prospectus, with pricing, will be issued in early March.

Tom Vyner, deputy chairman of J Sainsbury, is to be a non-executive director of Ushers. He is soon to leave the store chain, with which he has spent most of his career.

These days you can't eat, drive or fly without being asked to take part in a loyalty scheme.

Supermarkets... petrol companies... airlines... all invest vast amounts of money in complicated systems of points and perks.

The fact is, however, you don't necessarily have to give customers a plastic card to make them feel good about your company. They also appreciate cards of a very different kind – those even the smallest business can afford to give.

Research shows that 60% of people prefer to do business with a company that keeps in touch with them, and 90% prefer this to be done by post.*

*Henley Centre for Forecasting.

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Investors worry as the pound's rise continues

CITY investors piled out of the big overseas earners worried by sterling's relentless rise against it main rivals and the impact it has on their profits.

Earlier this week, it soared to its highest level since withdrawing from the exchange-rate mechanism in October 1992 and that was the cue for investors to start switching out those companies exposed to currency fluctuations.

Roger North, left, and Martin Coles, finance chief, of Ushers of Trowbridge, which has published its pathfinder prospectus

As a result, falls were seen in **GKN**, 15p at 966½p, **T&N** 7p at 149½p, **British Aerospace** 35½p at £11.90, **Rolls-Royce** 12½p at 220p, **GEC** 9p to 383½p, **BAT Industries** 10½p to 525p, **FKI** 11½p to 180p, **BBA Group** 17p to 328p, **Glynwed International** 11p to 303p, **Bowthorpe** 13p to 395½p, **Delta** 10½p to 342p, and **Morgan Crucible** 11½p to 462½p.

There was switching into the drinks sector on defensive grounds. **Whitbread** was 16p better at 816½p after impressing brokers with encouraging comments about current trading. Other to rise included **Scottish & Newcastle**, 9½p at 691p, **Vaux Group**, 4p at 280p, **Century Inns**, 7½p at 191p, **Guinness**, 4p at 439½p, and **Matthew Clark**, 3p at 289p. A revival in the drinks sector could not come at a better time for Ushers of Trowbridge, the regional brewer of which Roger North is chief executive, which yesterday published its pathfinder prospectus.

The rest of the equity market gave up an early 20-point lead undermined by the pound's performance and the Bank of England's *Inflation Report*. At one stage, the FT-SE 100 index was down almost 11 points before rallying to close all-square at 4,304.3 on the back of an early mark-up on Wall Street.

Late news of a bid approach left **Whessoe** sporting a rise of 65½p at 155½p. **Siebe** is making a recommended cash offer of 155p a share, putting a price tag of £42 million on the former heavy engineering group. Siebe fell 25p to 964½p.

Boots finished 9½p lower at 689p as one broker began urging clients to take profits after the shares rose to a five-year high earlier this week.

Cable and Wireless stood out with a rise of 12½p at 508½p as Merrill Lynch, the broker, raised its pre-tax profits forecast for 1997 from £1.27 billion to £1.3 billion. It has also has set a target price for the shares of 600p. NatWest Securities has told clients to "add" to their holdings in **BT**, up 3p at 441½p, and **Orange**, 4p better at 214½p. **Vodafone**, down 6p at 279½p, is rated a "hold". Merrill Lynch is also keen on **Storehouse**, 4½p better at 302½p.

On the grey market, it was day of mixed fortunes for the two arms of **British Gas**. Shareholders in the company yesterday gave the go-ahead for the proposed demerger. The EGM voted for the business to be split in two with shares in **Centrica**, the sales and retailing arm, and **BG**, the transportation and storage arm, trading officially on Monday. Centrica finished 5p better at 75½p, while BG was 4p lighter at 163½p. **British Gas** was steady at 239p. There was a mixed reaction by the water utilities to the report from Ofwat, the industry regulator, insisting they begin passing cost savings to customers by the year 2000. **Anglian Water** rose 8p to 629½p, and there were gains for **Hyder**, 2½p to 832½p, and **Thames Water**, 9p to 629p, but losses were seen in **Severn Trent**, 6p to 715p, and **Wessex**, 5p to 365p. **Eurotherm** slipped 2p to 471½p. Earlier this week, it gave a warning to shareholders about the effects a strong pound was having on trading. A number of companies have already made known their disquiet about a strong currency. This is the first time Eurotherm has been moved to issue such a warning. A profits warning also left an AIM-listed newcomer, **Interoute Telecommunications**, 24½p down at 98½p. The group says that profits for the full-year will fail to live up to expectations after equipment installed in Switzerland and France had to be replaced.

The group came to market in October at 150p with a price tag of £50 million, but came off after hitting a peak of 175½p.

A report from Coopers & Lybrand, the accountant, claiming that football clubs were overvalued by up to £1 billion continued to cast a shadow over the sector. Worst hit yesterday was **Manchester United**, with its price losing 17½p at 675p, after briefly touching 672½p.

BTG stood out with a rise of 45p to 516½p after being given approval by the Food and Drug Administration to market Benefix, its treatment for haemophilia in the US.

A bullish update on current trading lifted **Hay & Robertson** 3½p to 178½p. David Bailey, chairman, told sharethe annual meeting that sales in the first 19 weeks of the current year were ahead of expectations.

The group has recently launched ranges of clothes produced under deals with Dunlop, Terry Venables, the former England manager, and Ruud Gullitt, the Chelsea manager.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The London bond market finished on a high note after a cautious start, with investors concerned by the latest drop in unemployment. Sentiment was also unsettled by the rise in average earnings and the revised figure for November.

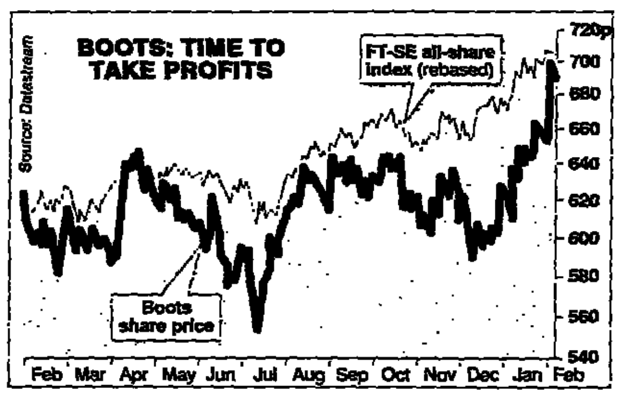
So the apparent back down over interest rate rises by the Bank of England in its latest *Inflation Report* was positively received. This, combined with a rally by other European bond markets, enabled prices to end the session with useful gains.

In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt rose £$\frac{3}{16}$ to £113½ as the number of contracts completed reached 89,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent was £¼ better at £107½, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a tick firmer at £104$\frac{5}{32}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street stocks extended their tech-driven rally at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average ran up 48.49 points to hit 6,906.60.

TC Group, subject of a merger last year between Takare and Court Cavendish, has begun to rally, with a rise of 2p to 110p. The shares tumbled from 140p after last month's profits *warning and complaints about occupancy levels at its nursing homes.* Speculators claim the group is now vulnerable to a bid.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	6906.60 (+48.49)
S&P Composite	796.24 (+6.65)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	18409.96 (+228.79)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	13462.61 (+8.40)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	705.58 (+6.36)

Sydney:

AO	2473.5 (+25.4)

Frankfurt:

DAX	3216.14 (+27.59)

Singapore:

Straits	2224.64 (+27.59)

Brussels:

General	11612.41 (+60.75)

Paris:

CAC-40	2599.35 (+17.24)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	936.10 (+4.70)

London:

FT 30	2827.8 (-11.7)
FT 100	4304.3 (n/c)
FTSE Mid 250	4574.5 (-12.1)
FTSE 350	2124.7 (-1.1)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2143.59 (+10.30)
FT All-Share	2097.69 (-0.83)
FT Non Financials	2135.80 (-1.83)
FT Fixed Interest	119.63 (+0.19)
FT Govt Secs	96.54 (+0.30)
Bargains	48994
SEAQ Volume	1003.3m
US$	1.6332 (-0.0094)
German Mark	2.7492 (+0.0034)
Exchange Index	98.2 (Same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4038
£:SDR	1.1828
RPI	154.4 Dec (2.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	154.2 Dec (3.1%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

BZW Endowment Red	55	...
C&B Publishing	175	- 5
Calidore Group	3¼	...
Calidore Warrants	1	...
Enterprise Vent (100)	89½	...
Epicore Network	55	...
GB Railways	182½	- 15
Hardy Underwrtg	167	...
IMS Group	167½	- 2
John Lewis	4	...
Netcall	57½	...
Oxford Biomedica	52½	- 2
Parkwood Holdings	75½	...
Prelude Tst	117½	...
Prelude Warrants	42½	...
Sunderland	760	...
Sutton Harbour	137	...
Tea Plantations Inv	103½	+ ½
Tea Plantations Wts	29½	+ 4½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Finelist Gp n/p (320)	50½	- 2
Gt Portland n/p (190)	9	+ 1½

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Visual Action	205p (+22½p)
Shire Pharms	241½p (+15p)
Amstrad	183p (+9p)
Jarvis Porter	237½p (+9p)
Clyde Blowers	365p (+12½p)
Safeway	356½p (+10p)
Wolseley	497p (+12p)
Whitbread	816½p (+16p)
Sage Gp	549p (+9p)
Chiroscience	384p (+8p)

FALLS:

Rolls-Royce	220p (-12½p)
Psion	364p (-15p)
Delta	342p (-10½p)
Quality Care	295p (-9p)
Charter	732p (-20½p)
Man Utd	675p (-17½p)
Tibbet & Britn	587½p (-15p)
Marks Spencer	481p (-11p)
BAT	525p (-10½p)
Royal & Sun Al	504p (-9p)
Enterprise	638½p (-10p)
Siebe	984½p (-25p)
Cookson	241p (-6p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Pounding for exporters

NOT ONLY mortgage payers shudder at talk of higher interest rates. The stock market was looking sorry for itself after the Bank of England's inflation report hit the screens because shares in our leading exporters plunged. It did not take share traders long to work out that if interest rates rise the pound will be supported at its present rather high levels or will rise further, making life even more difficult for our export earners. It has to be remembered that 40 per cent of corporate profits currently come from overseas.

So far chemicals, textiles and metals have been the worst-hit sectors, if only because food, drink and tobacco companies enjoy strong domestic demand. Profit forecasts for next year's trading at British Steel, for instance, have halved, purely because of the pound's impact. Given the damage that currency volatility causes to corporate finances and the havoc it plays with long-term planning, one can at least sympathise with the plea by the Unilever chairman earlier this week for Britain to join EMU.

Currency movements matter to a trading giant like Unilever, which operates in most countries of the world and has to present its final results in both Dutch and English currency. Life would be simpler and more predictable at Unilever House if the whole of Europe could be accounted for in one currency. But even if Britain signed up for the euro, life would still not be ideal. Companies like Unilever and British Steel would still need to buy raw materials in dollars. Commodity markets told a tale yesterday of problems caused by the rising dollar, blamed for a drop in gold and a surge in coffee.

AIM

FOR an exchange that seems to have the reputation as a playgroud of corporate crooks, blue sky wannabes and spivvy stocks in general, the Alternative Investment Market is producing growth.

Speculative stocks, AIM's speciality, are having something of a bull run in the junior exchange and investors who dimissed the exchange as a swindlers' paradise can only watch.

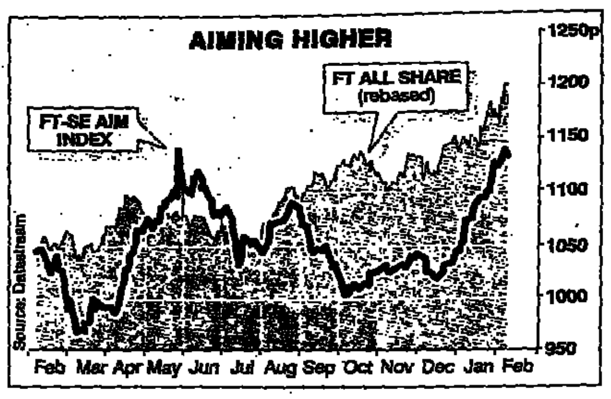
The growth in the index is being led by Chelsea Village, Ramco Energy and Trocadero, the exchange's weightiest stocks. The stream of capital which has been flooding into AIM over the past two months is also being targeted at small companies in general.

Only a handful of AIM's constituents have any serious exposure to overseas sales, and are thus insulated from damage caused by the stength of sterling.

But for every AIM wonderstock, there is still a problem stock going nowhere. This still scares the institutions that judge AIM stocks by standards applied to the main list.

With 256 companies and a capitalisation approaching £6 billion, AIM cannot be written off as a showpiece of financial lunacy. True, it is a risky market, but at present it is delivering growth unmatched by any other sector.

Its biggest defect is still illiquidity. Until institutions start to play ball, the jagged edges which plot the share price of AIM companies will not be smoothed.



Polygram

THE history of the British film industry would hardly make the kind of "feel-good" movie beloved of Hollywood moguls. For all the native talent, the financial expertise to compete with the American giants has rarely been forthcoming, and the industry has been reduced to scrabbling around for backers.

Film is a difficult business to get right, and the industry is littered with examples of companies that have gone belly-up after the box-office flop of an expensive turkey. Success requires a degree of luck, as well as deep pockets able to handle the ever-spiralling costs.

Polygram, British based but Dutch controlled, is determined to try to tack a happy ending on to the script. It has sidestepped the traditional pitfalls of British film-makers — critically lauded but commercially disastrous — by also investing in European and American ventures. The company now faces a crucial test as it starts-up in its own large-scale US distribution company and gears up to make the block-busters that, like *Independence Day*, gross serious box-office money. The risks are inevitably increasing, but if Polygram continues to display skill at spreading its portfolio and picking the winners, it should be able to join Hollywood's finest at the Graumann's Chinese Theatre.

Lloyds Abbey

ALTHOUGH personal equity plans and unit trusts may be selling well and bolstering profits, news that Lloyds Abbey Life has set aside a further £14 million provision for pensions mis-selling indicates that the life industry has still to shed the legacy of the 1980s.

Nevertheless, after several years of recession, sales of saving products are bouncing back, particularly those which do not require 25-year contracts and can be bought and sold at will.

LAL's 30 per cent rise in profits yesterday was due to several factors: increased unit trust sales, a buoyant housing market, the lack of a £35 million write-off for the disposal of Trans Leben, and the fruits of cost-cutting at Black Horse, Lloyds Bowmakers, and Lloyds Bank Insurance Services.

Integration with Lloyds TSB is likely to yield further cost savings, but, with so many brands within the LAL subsidiary, the bank needs to make some tough decisions.

It would like an IFA company, but is clearly concerned that the bidding frenzy for Scottish Amicable will push up prices. At least one brand needs to go from its rambling portfolio. Most obvious is Abbey Life, which LAL says will remain at present. Market fashion favours IFA operations, rather than direct sales operations, and LAL may struggle to find a buyer to take Abbey Life off its hands.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	945 SLR	May	942 SLR
May	[illegible]	Jul	[illegible]
Jul	876 BID	Sep	990 BID
Sep	[illegible]	Dec	1000-995
Dec	[illegible] BID		
Mar	930-929	Volume:	15724

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1655-1650	Nov	1705-1700
May	1675-1665	Jan	1700 BID
Jul	1690-1685	Mar	unq
Sep	unq	Volume:	9543

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	[illegible]
Spot: 309.5		Dec	[illegible]
Mar	[illegible]	Mar	[illegible]
May	302.0-301.8	May	302.0-300.0
Aug	[illegible]	Volume:	4170

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 11

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	77.65	150.99	101.42
+/-	+3.23	+1.09	-0.93
Eng/Wales:	74.27	143.25	101.01
+/-	+1.56	-0.49	-1.28
%	+23.0	-1.1	+4.0
Scotland:	70.76	137.59	106.41
+/-	-1.75	-4.33	+0.71
%	-21.0	-17.0	+5.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	21.15	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	21.10	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Apr)	20.75	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	22.50	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	22.25	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	227 (n/c)	229 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	189 (-1)	191 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	92 (-2)	94 (-2)
Naphtha	229 (+10)	232 (+4)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	184.75-85.00	Jun	179.50-80.00
Apr	181.75-82.00	Jul	179.50 BID
May	179.00-79.50	Vol:	31597

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	21.10-21.14	Jun	20.15-20.20
Apr	20.71-20.75	Jul	n/a
May	20.43-20.47	Vol:	40558

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	91.50
May	93.75
Jul	95.75
Sep	90.75
Nov	92.75
Volume:	526

LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	92.25
May	93.00
Sep	90.50
Nov	92.50
Jan	94.50
Volume:	17

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	56.0
Apr	57.5	60.0
May	66.0	66.5
Volume:		90

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Feb 74.75-80.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 97	1515	1507	1508
Mar 97	1569	1550	1562
Apr 97	1575	1550	1560
Jul 97	1305	1290	1290
Vol: 134 lots		Open Interest:	2994

Index 1440 +0

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2355.0-2356.0	2233.0-2234.0	1257175
Lead ($/tonne)	636.50-637.50	644.00-645.00	282250
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1162.5-1163.0	1182.0-1183.0	348950
Tin ($/tonne)	5870.0-5875.0	5939.0-5940.0	20405
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1519.0-1520.0	1550.5-1551.0	2609950
Nickel ($/tonne)	7745.0-7755.0	7815.0-7820.0	74814

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Allid Dom	420	22	27	33	14[illegible]	23	28
(*422)	460	6[illegible]	11[illegible]	18	[illegible]	49	53[illegible]
ASDA	110	9	11[illegible]	13	2[illegible]	4[illegible]	7
(*115)	120	3[illegible]	6[illegible]	8[illegible]	7[illegible]	9	11[illegible]
Boots	650	50[illegible]	62[illegible]	67[illegible]	6	15[illegible]	20[illegible]
(*689)	700	18	31	39	23[illegible]	37[illegible]	47[illegible]
Br Airways	650	51[illegible]	59	67[illegible]	5	14	19
(*694)	700	19	30[illegible]	39[illegible]	22[illegible]	39	40[illegible]
BP	650	67[illegible]	[illegible]	75	10	18	22
(*709)	700	27	41	48[illegible]	29	36	43
Br Steel	160	7[illegible]	11	12	5[illegible]	11[illegible]	12[illegible]
(*163)	180	1[illegible]	4	5	19[illegible]	[illegible]	27
C & W	500	29	42	50[illegible]	15	26	33[illegible]
(*508)	550	9[illegible]	20[illegible]	31	45	55	62
[illegible]	700	40	59[illegible]	67[illegible]	25	37[illegible]	51[illegible]
(*725)	750	16	35	45[illegible]	55	66	79[illegible]
ICI	750	23	36	45	29[illegible]	37	47
(*756)	800	8	19	26	67[illegible]	72	79
Land Sec	750	47	59	64[illegible]	5	19	22
(*776)	800	19	29	37	24[illegible]	43	47
M & S	460	32	38	45[illegible]	7[illegible]	12[illegible]	16
(*481)	500	10[illegible]	16[illegible]	24[illegible]	25[illegible]	37[illegible]	38
Nat West	800	40[illegible]	60	72	26	39	53
(*827)	850	17	37	49[illegible]	55[illegible]	67[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	330	34[illegible]	40	44[illegible]	7	11	14
(*357)	360	15[illegible]	22[illegible]	29	18	25	24
Sainsbury	300	24	29	34	6	12	14[illegible]
(*319)	330	9	14[illegible]	19[illegible]	20[illegible]	28	31
Shell	1050	[illegible]	51	65	31[illegible]	41	51
(*1061)	1100	16	29	42[illegible]	60[illegible]	70[illegible]	80
Smkl Bch	950	40	62	79	28[illegible]	42	51
(*959)	[illegible]	20	36	56	59	70[illegible]	78
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	0	—	—	0	—	—
Zeneca	1700	113[illegible]	151[illegible]	181[illegible]	42[illegible]	62[illegible]	82[illegible]
(*1771)	1800	64	97	128[illegible]	97	110[illegible]	127[illegible]
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
BAT Ind	500	39[illegible]	45	55[illegible]	20[illegible]	28[illegible]	39[illegible]
(*524)	550	12	23	31	50[illegible]	57	68
Vodafone	280	16[illegible]	24[illegible]	31	12[illegible]	19[illegible]	23[illegible]
(*280)	300	8[illegible]	16	22	24[illegible]	31	34[illegible]
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	420	25	37	44	1[illegible]	9[illegible]	17
(*442)	460	1	15	23	19	26[illegible]	33
Ladbroke	220	15[illegible]	19[illegible]	25	0	5[illegible]	8[illegible]
(*234)	240	3	8[illegible]	14[illegible]	6[illegible]	15	18
Utd Bisc	220	9	16[illegible]	21	1[illegible]	11	14
(*227)	240	0[illegible]	8	12[illegible]	13	23	26

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	500	49	59[illegible]	64	2[illegible]	9[illegible]	13
(*541)	550	15	25	34	19[illegible]	29	33
Thames W	650	39	54	57	15	32[illegible]	35[illegible]
(*672)	700	16	28[illegible]	32	37[illegible]	60	63[illegible]
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BTR	240	6	14	19	1	13[illegible]	17
(*243)	260	0[illegible]	6[illegible]	11	18	27	29[illegible]
Br Aero	1150	45[illegible]	78	104[illegible]	3	27	37
(*1192)	1200	11	51	77[illegible]	17[illegible]	49	60
Br Telcm	420	22	35	42[illegible]	1	6	18[illegible]
(*441)	460	0	14	21[illegible]	20	27	40[illegible]
Cadbury	460	19[illegible]	28	35[illegible]	1	13[illegible]	17
(*478)	500	1	11	17[illegible]	22	37[illegible]	40
Guinness	420	22	31	37	0[illegible]	11	17[illegible]
(*441)	460	1	10[illegible]	18[illegible]	19[illegible]	34[illegible]	40
GEC	360	24	35	40	0	8[illegible]	11[illegible]
(*383)	390	2	19[illegible]	22	8[illegible]	17	25[illegible]
Hanson	[illegible]	11	—	—	0	—	—
(*129)	[illegible]	1	—	—	7	—	—
LASMO	220	17[illegible]	26	34	0	6	7[illegible]
(*236)	240	4[illegible]	14[illegible]	23	4[illegible]	13[illegible]	15
LucasVarity	180	15	23	24[illegible]	0	6	8
(*194)	200	1[illegible]	9[illegible]	14	6[illegible]	14[illegible]	18[illegible]
Pilkington	130	5	11[illegible]	14	1	4	7
(*134)	140	0[illegible]	6[illegible]	9	6[illegible]	9	12[illegible]
Prudential	550	29[illegible]	42[illegible]	54	1[illegible]	17[illegible]	24[illegible]
(*579)	600	1[illegible]	18	30[illegible]	24	45	51[illegible]
Redland	330	14	29	37[illegible]	1	16[illegible]	20[illegible]
(*342)	360	1	14[illegible]	20	18[illegible]	34[illegible]	38
R-Royce	220	3[illegible]	14	19	4	13[illegible]	16
(*220)	240	0	7	11	20	26	28[illegible]
Tesco	330	11	22	28	4	13[illegible]	17[illegible]
(*329)	360	0[illegible]	8[illegible]	15	22[illegible]	31[illegible]	35
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4307)

	4200	4250	4300	4350	4400	4450
Calls						
Feb	115	74[illegible]	37[illegible]	14[illegible]	3	1
Mar	134[illegible]	99[illegible]	69	45	26	13[illegible]
Apr	159[illegible]	127[illegible]	96	73	50[illegible]	34
May	184	150[illegible]	118	93	70	52[illegible]
Jun	208	—	140[illegible]	—	97	—
Puts						
Feb	7	13	28[illegible]	57	103	153
Mar	36	50	71	97	129	165[illegible]
Apr	61	79[illegible]	98	123[illegible]	151[illegible]	185[illegible]
May	78[illegible]	95	112[illegible]	132	162	196
Jun	95[illegible]	—	132	—	181	—

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Abby Nat	750	53[illegible]	67[illegible]	90[illegible]	16	27	36[illegible]
(*793)	800	23	41[illegible]	54[illegible]	41	50[illegible]	60[illegible]
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1150	44	78[illegible]	92[illegible]	33	48	61
(*1178)	1200	26[illegible]	54	69[illegible]	61[illegible]	75	87[illegible]
Nat Pwr	500	23[illegible]	41	42[illegible]	15	26	33
(*511)	550	9[illegible]	18	21	47[illegible]	59[illegible]	63[illegible]
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo W	1000	39[illegible]	61	74[illegible]	39[illegible]	57[illegible]	62
(*1010)	1050	17[illegible]	39	53	69	79[illegible]	91
HSBC	1500	79[illegible]	122	147	49[illegible]	75	97[illegible]
(*1542)	1600	33	77[illegible]	101[illegible]	106[illegible]	130[illegible]	152
Reuter	650	30	45[illegible]	54	27[illegible]	39[illegible]	44[illegible]
(*651)	700	12[illegible]	26[illegible]	33[illegible]	61	71	75
Royal & Sun	500	20[illegible]	31[illegible]	40	2[illegible]	32	37
(*504)	550	4[illegible]	14	21	61	66[illegible]	66[illegible]
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Blue Circ	[illegible]	19[illegible]	30[illegible]	35[illegible]	1	11[illegible]	1[illegible]
(*408)	420	1[illegible]	15	21	13	29[illegible]	31[illegible]
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Kingfshr	650	21	39[illegible]	51	1	21	31
(*668)	700	0[illegible]	16	28	32	51	58[illegible]
	Series	Mar	Jun		Mar	Jun	
Br Gas	220	22	25	—	1[illegible]	5[illegible]	—
(*238)	240	9	10[illegible]	—	8[illegible]	12	—
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Dixons	460	38[illegible]	53[illegible]	60[illegible]	5	12	20[illegible]
(*492)	500	14	30[illegible]	38	18[illegible]	28[illegible]	40
EMI Group	1150	44[illegible]	81[illegible]	101	24[illegible]	47[illegible]	59
(*1161)	1200	23	57[illegible]	77	52	67	85[illegible]
Tarmac	90	6[illegible]	11[illegible]	13[illegible]	1	4	4
(*97)	100	4	6	8[illegible]	5	9	9
Hillsdown	180	6[illegible]	10	11[illegible]	3[illegible]	11	11[illegible]
(*182)	200	1	2[illegible]	4[illegible]	17[illegible]	25[illegible]	26
Lonrho	120	10	14[illegible]	16	1[illegible]	4[illegible]	6
(*128)	130	3[illegible]	8[illegible]	10[illegible]	5	8[illegible]	10[illegible]
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	280	15[illegible]	24[illegible]	29	3[illegible]	9	15
(*290)	300	5[illegible]	14	18[illegible]	12[illegible]	18[illegible]	25
Lloyds TSB	460	40	49[illegible]	59	5	13[illegible]	19[illegible]
(*498)	500	12	27	38	20	31	37[illegible]
Scot Pwr	[illegible]	12[illegible]	—	—	[illegible]	—	—
(*358)	360	9	21	27	10	17[illegible]	24
Unilever	1450	45	65[illegible]	86	18	42	49[illegible]
(*1479)	1500	20	39[illegible]	61	43[illegible]	70	75[illegible]

February 12, 1997 Tot: 53643 Call: 25770 Put: 27873 FTSE Call: 3301 Put: 5569
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Mar 97	113-15	113-24	112-29	113-16	89509
Previous open interest: 201070	Jun 97	112-30	112-30	112-15	113-01	30
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Mar 97	103.07	103.25	102.76	103.10	208062
Previous open interest: 245204	Jun 97	102.20	102.29	101.93	102.24	8945
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Mar 97	131.10	131.38	130.85	131.02	60104
Previous open interest: 119662	Jun 97	130.61	130.69	130.40	130.52	517
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Mar 97	126.18	126.26	126.17	126.22	2184
	Jun 97	124.74	124.81	124.74	12.12	1212
Three Mth Sterling	Mar 97	93.72	93.72	93.69	93.72	10919
	Jun 97	93.48	93.50	93.42	93.49	20546
Previous open interest: 499232	Sep 97	93.28	93.31	93.22	93.30	30461
Three Mth Euromark	Feb 97	96.86	96.87	96.85	96.86	857
Previous open interest: 1172356	Mar 97	96.90	96.90	96.88	96.89	17727
Three Mth Eurolira	Mar 97	93.02	93.05	92.94	92.97	20526
Previous open interest: 279295	Jun 97	93.58	93.62	93.48	93.52	19733
Three Mth Euroyen	Jun 97	99.43	99.43	99.43	99.43	500
	Sep 97	99.37	99.37	99.37	99.37	400
Three Mth Euroswiss	Mar 97	98.33	98.35	98.28	98.34	5955
Previous open interest: 84949	Jun 97	98.33	98.36	98.29	98.35	6322
Three Mth ECU	Mar 97	95.97	95.97	95.95	95.96	314
Previous open interest: 34567	Jun 97	96.06	96.06	96.02	96.03	561
FTSE 100	Mar 97	4317.0	4320.0	4281.0	4299.0	11689
Previous open interest: 65775	Jun 97	4309.0	4314.5	4303.5	4318.5	150

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse [illegible]
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 6 Week fixed: [illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth: [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open [illegible] close 7.

Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.32	n/a	5.37	5.47	5.72
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $337.45-337.75 **Close:** $340.80-341.30 **High:** $341.40-341.90
Low: $336.00-336.50 **AM:** $336.90 **PM:** $337.70

Krugerrand: $340.00-343.00 (£208.00-210.00)

Platinum: $356.00 (£218.00) **Silver:** $4.93 (£3.035) **Palladium:** $136.65 (£83.75)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.0793-3.1089	3.0847-3.0874	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Brussels	56.620-57.160	56.698-56.782	15-10pr	47-40pr
Copenhagen	10.455-10.550	10.465-10.477	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.0284-1.0349	1.0293-1.0306	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Frankfurt	2.7434-2.7691	2.7492-2.7508	6-2pr	17-11pr
Lisbon	275.60-277.92	276.11-276.44	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Madrid	232.39-234.05	232.85-233.07	[illegible]pr	30-11pr
Milan	2682.4-2708.1	2694.0-2696.9	21-37ds	60-82ds
Montreal	2.2129-2.2214	2.2134-2.2155	0.54-0.49pr	1.15-1.07pr
New York	1.6330-1.6372	1.6330-1.6340	0.103-0.082pr	0.309-0.277pr
Oslo	10.774-10.841	10.798-10.808	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	9.2670-9.3430	9.2852-9.2942	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Stockholm	12.132-12.217	12.132-12.152	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	201.99-203.24	202.20-202.40	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	19.300-19.496	19.338-19.358	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.3510-2.3724	2.3598-2.3625	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3211-1.3220
Austria	11.83-11.84
Belgium (Com)	34.64-34.69
Canada	1.3552-1.3557
Denmark	6.4025-6.4045
France	5.6780-5.6800
Germany	1.6797-1.6802
Hong Kong	7.7455-7.7465
Ireland	1.5853-1.5873
Italy	1649.30-1649.80
Japan	123.60-123.70
Malaysia	2.4855-2.4862
Netherlands	1.8862-1.8867
Norway	6.5972-6.5992
Portugal	168.90-168.98
Singapore	1.4162-1.4169
Spain	142.31-142.36
Sweden	7.4325-7.4400
Switzerland	1.4398-1.4408

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6315-1.6342
Australia dollar	2.1552-2.1580
Bahrain dinar	0.6100-0.6220
Brazil real*	1.7062-1.7106
China yuan	13.398-13.698
Cyprus pound	0.8135-0.8235
Finland markka	8.0300-8.1460
Greece drachma	427.00-434.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.6368-12.6462
India rupee	58.14-59.10
Indonesia rupiah	3853.0-3921.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4910-0.5010
Malaysia ringgit	4.0530-4.0584
New Zealand dollar	2.3742-2.3777
Pakistan rupee	65.05 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8900-6.0140
Singapore dollar	2.3110-2.3131
S Africa rand (com)	7.1680-7.2700
U A E dirham	5.9400-6.0640

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,300	Lloyds TSB	8,500
ASDA Gp	24,400	LucasVarity	5,900
Abbey Ntl	2,600	Marks Spr	5,100
Allied Dom	5,300	Mercury Asset	426
Argos	423	NatWst Bk	5,700
AB Foods	440	Nat Grid	3,200
BAA	2,500	Nat Power	5,000
BAT Inds	15,600	Next	1,400
BOC	2,600	Orange	9,600
BP	22,700	P & O	2,600
BSkyB	3,900	Pearson	1,000
BTR	18,600	PowerGen	1,900
BT	20,400	Prudential	2,000
Bk of Scot	4,800	RMC	545
Barclays	3,200	RTZ	2,200
Bass	2,700	Railtrack	2,400
Blue Circle	1,600	Rank Group	2,400
Boots	4,200	Reckitt Col	1,500
BAe	2,800	Redland	2,700
BA	7,600	Reed Intl	1,900
Brit Gas	19,900	Rentokil	13,200
Brit Steel	13,600	Reuters	14,400
Burmah Cstl	1,300	Rolls Royce	17,900
Burton	5,900	Ryl & Sun	11,000
Cable Wire	8,400	Royal Bk Sct	4,000
Cadbury	3,100	Safeway	16,800
Carlton	774	Sainsbury	13,600
Cm Union	5,700	Schroders	143
Dixons	2,300	Scot & New	2,900
EMI	2,200	Scot Power	1,500
Enterpr Oil	3,800	Svrn Trent	2,100
GKN	3,500	Shell Trans	6,800
GRE	4,200	Siebe	2,000
GUS	2,000	SmKl Bch	3,800
Gen Acc	2,400	Smith Nph	3,500
Gen Elec	5,700	Smiths Inds	2,100
Glaxo Well	5,600	Std Chrtrd	1,300
Granada	1,300	TI Gp	972
Grand Met	4,400	Tate & Lyle	889
Guinness	4,400	Tesco	10,900
HSBC	2,100	Thames W	1,900
Hanson	11,800	Tomkins	4,600
Hays	2,300	Unilever	3,300
ICI	4,300	Utd Utilities	1,400
Imp Tob	4,800	Utd News	749
Kingfisher	743	Vodafone	5,900
LASMO	3,800	Whitbread	3,300
Ladbroke	2,300	Wlms Hld	1,800
Land Secs	2,400	Wolseley	1,800
Legal & Gn	5,000	Zeneca	1,200

WALL STREET

	Feb 12 midday	Feb 11 Close
AMP Inc	39[illegible]	39
AMR Corp	80[illegible]	79[illegible]
ASA	34[illegible]	34
AT & T	39[illegible]	38[illegible]
Abbott Labs	56[illegible]	56
Advanced Micro	33	32
Aetna Life	80[illegible]	80
Ahmanson (HF)	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
Air Prod & Chem	75[illegible]	75[illegible]
AirTouch Comm	27[illegible]	27[illegible]
Alberto-Culver B	55[illegible]	55[illegible]
Albertson's	35[illegible]	35[illegible]
Alcan Aluminium	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
Allied Signal	71[illegible]	71
Alum Co of Am	66[illegible]	66[illegible]
Amax Gold Inc	6[illegible]	6[illegible]
Amerada Hess	58[illegible]	57[illegible]
Amer Brands	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Amer El Power	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Amer Express	67[illegible]	67
Amer Genl Corp	41[illegible]	41
Amer Home Pr	63[illegible]	64[illegible]
Amer Intl	123[illegible]	123[illegible]
Amer Stores	44	43[illegible]
Amer Standard	45	45[illegible]
Ameritech	61[illegible]	61[illegible]
Amoco	86[illegible]	85[illegible]
Anheuser-Busch	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Apple Computer	15[illegible]	15[illegible]
Archer Daniels	19	19[illegible]
Armco	4[illegible]	4[illegible]
Armstrng Wrld	69[illegible]	69[illegible]
Asarco	29[illegible]	29[illegible]
Atl Richfield	129[illegible]	129
Auto Data Pro	41[illegible]	42
Avery Dennison	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
Avon Products	63	61[illegible]
Baker Hughes	36	36[illegible]
Baltim Gas & El	27[illegible]	27[illegible]
Banc One	43[illegible]	44[illegible]
BankAmerica	116[illegible]	116[illegible]
Bank of NY	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Bankers Tr NY	89[illegible]	89[illegible]
Barnett Banks	47	47[illegible]
Bausch & Lomb	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Baxter Intl	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Becton Dickson	49[illegible]	49[illegible]
Bell Atlantic	70[illegible]	71[illegible]
Bell Industries	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
BellSouth	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Black & Decker	33	33
Block (H&R)	30[illegible]	29[illegible]
Boeing	107[illegible]	107[illegible]
Boise Cascade	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
Bristol Myrs Sq	129[illegible]	128
Browning Ferris	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Brunswick	26[illegible]	26[illegible]
Burlington Nthn	84[illegible]	85[illegible]
CMS Energy Corp	33	33[illegible]
CNA Financial	106[illegible]	106[illegible]
CPC Intl	79[illegible]	78[illegible]
CSX	46[illegible]	46[illegible]
Campbell Soup	85[illegible]	84[illegible]
Can Pacific	26[illegible]	26
Carolina Pwr	37[illegible]	37[illegible]
Caterpillar	78[illegible]	79[illegible]
Central & SW	24[illegible]	24[illegible]
Champion Intl	42	42[illegible]
Chase Manhat	98[illegible]	98[illegible]
Chevron Corp	68[illegible]	67[illegible]
Chrysler	34	33[illegible]
Chubb Corp	57[illegible]	56[illegible]
Cigna Corp	157[illegible]	156[illegible]
Citicorp	116	117[illegible]
Clorox	121[illegible]	120[illegible]
Coastal Corp	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Coca Cola	59[illegible]	59[illegible]
Coca Cola Ent	50[illegible]	50[illegible]
Colgate-Palm	104[illegible]	103
Columbia Gas	62[illegible]	63[illegible]
Columbia/HCA	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Compaq Comp	78[illegible]	80[illegible]
Comp Ass Intl	47[illegible]	46[illegible]
Conagra	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Conrail	100[illegible]	100[illegible]
Cons Edison	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Cons Nat Gas	54	53[illegible]
Cooper Inds	44[illegible]	44[illegible]
CoreStates	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
Corning Inc	34[illegible]	34
Crown Cork	59	58[illegible]
Dana Corp	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Dayton Hudson	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Deere	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Delta Air Lines	82[illegible]	81[illegible]
Deluxe Corp	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Digital Equip	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
Dillard Dept St	29[illegible]	29[illegible]
Disney (Walt)	75[illegible]	75[illegible]
Dominion Res	40[illegible]	40[illegible]
Donnelley (RR)	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Dover Corp	49[illegible]	49[illegible]
Dow Chemical	79[illegible]	79[illegible]
Dow Jones	41[illegible]	40[illegible]
Dresser	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
Duke Power	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Dun & Bradstreet	25[illegible]	25
Du Pont	109[illegible]	110[illegible]
Eastman Chem	55[illegible]	55[illegible]
Eastman Kodak	91[illegible]	90[illegible]

	Feb 12 midday	Feb 11 Close
Eaton Corp	72[illegible]	72[illegible]
Edison Intl	22	21[illegible]
Elect Data Sys	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Emerson Elec	103[illegible]	102
Engelhard Corp	22[illegible]	21
Enron Corp	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Entergy	26[illegible]	26[illegible]
Ethyl Corp	8[illegible]	8[illegible]
Exxon	102[illegible]	101[illegible]
FMC Corp	70[illegible]	70[illegible]
FPL Group	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Federal Express	50[illegible]	51
First Bk Sys	78[illegible]	79[illegible]
First Union Rlty	14	13[illegible]
Fleet Fin Grp	56[illegible]	56[illegible]
Fluor Corp	73[illegible]	72[illegible]
Ford Motor	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
GTE Corp	48[illegible]	48
Gannett	80	80[illegible]
Gap Inc Del	33[illegible]	33
Gencorp	19[illegible]	19[illegible]
Gen Dynamics	69[illegible]	69[illegible]
Gen Electric	104[illegible]	104[illegible]
Gen Mills	68	68[illegible]
Gen Motors	57[illegible]	58[illegible]
Gen Reinsurance	166[illegible]	166[illegible]
Gen Signal	44[illegible]	44[illegible]
Genuine Parts	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Georgia Pac	76	76
Gillette	81[illegible]	79[illegible]
Glaxo Wellc ADR	33	33[illegible]
Goodrich (BF)	40[illegible]	40[illegible]
Goodyear Tire	53[illegible]	53[illegible]
Grt Atl Pac Tea	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Great Wstn Fin	33[illegible]	33
Halliburton	69	68[illegible]
Harcourt General	47[illegible]	46[illegible]
Heinz (HJ)	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Hercules	46[illegible]	45[illegible]
Hershey Foods	44	44[illegible]
Hewlett Packard	50[illegible]	50[illegible]
Hilton Hotels	27[illegible]	28[illegible]
Home Depot	51	51[illegible]
Homestake Mng	14	13[illegible]
Honeywell	74[illegible]	74
Household Intl	100[illegible]	99[illegible]
Houston Inds	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Humana	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
ITT Corp	57[illegible]	56
Ikon Office	42[illegible]	43[illegible]
Illinois Tool	83[illegible]	84[illegible]
Illinova	26	26[illegible]
INCO	33[illegible]	34[illegible]
Ingersoll Rand	48[illegible]	48[illegible]
Inland Steel	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
Intel Corp	152[illegible]	151[illegible]
IBM	144[illegible]	144[illegible]
Intl Flav & Fr	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Intl Paper	42[illegible]	42[illegible]
James River Va	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	60[illegible]	60
Kellogg	71[illegible]	71[illegible]
Kerr-McGee	66[illegible]	66[illegible]
Kimberly-Clark	99[illegible]	99[illegible]
Kmart	10[illegible]	10[illegible]
Knight-Ridder	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Lilly (Eli)	89[illegible]	89[illegible]
Limited Inc	17[illegible]	17[illegible]
Lincoln Nat	58[illegible]	59[illegible]
Litton	43	42[illegible]
Liz Claiborne	42[illegible]	42[illegible]
Lockheed Martin	90[illegible]	89[illegible]
Louisiana Pac	20[illegible]	20[illegible]
MCI Comm	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Manpower Inc	35[illegible]	34[illegible]
Marriott Intl	54	53[illegible]
Marsh & McLnn	113[illegible]	113
Masco Corp	34	34[illegible]
May Dept St	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Maytag Corp	22	22
McDonalds	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
McDonnell D	66[illegible]	66[illegible]
McGraw Hill	51[illegible]	50[illegible]
Mead Corp	57[illegible]	59[illegible]
Medtronic	68[illegible]	69[illegible]
Mellon Bk	76[illegible]	76[illegible]
Merck Inc	93[illegible]	93
Merrill Lynch	87[illegible]	87
Microsoft	97[illegible]	98[illegible]
Minnesota Mine	84[illegible]	84[illegible]
Mobil Corp	129[illegible]	127[illegible]
Monsanto	38[illegible]	37[illegible]
Morgan (JP)	103[illegible]	103[illegible]
Motorola Inc	61[illegible]	63[illegible]
Natl Semi	23[illegible]	23[illegible]
Natl Service Ind	39	38[illegible]
Navistar Int	9[illegible]	9[illegible]
NY Times A	41[illegible]	42[illegible]
Newmont Mng	39	38[illegible]
Niag Mohawk	10[illegible]	10[illegible]
Nike B	70[illegible]	68[illegible]
NL Industries	11[illegible]	11[illegible]
Noram Energy	15	15
Nordstrom	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Norfolk Sthn	87[illegible]	89[illegible]
Nthn States Pwr	46[illegible]	47
Norwest Corp	48[illegible]	48[illegible]
Nynex Corp	53	52[illegible]
Occidental Pet	25[illegible]	25[illegible]
Ohio Edison	22[illegible]	23

	Feb 12 midday	Feb 11 Close
Oracle	40[illegible]	39[illegible]
Oryx Energy Co	21[illegible]	20[illegible]
Overseas Ship	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
Owens Corning	44[illegible]	44[illegible]
PHH Corp	48	48
PPG Industries	53[illegible]	53[illegible]
PNC Bank	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
PP&L Res	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Paccar Inc	69[illegible]	68[illegible]
PacifiCorp	21[illegible]	21[illegible]
Pac Enterprises	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Pac Telesis	40[illegible]	40
Pall Corp	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Parker Hannifin	43[illegible]	44[illegible]
Peco Energy	23[illegible]	23[illegible]
Penney (JC)	48[illegible]	48
Pennzoil	60[illegible]	60[illegible]
Pepsico	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
Pfizer	92[illegible]	91[illegible]
Pharm & Upjhn	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Phelps Dodge	68[illegible]	69[illegible]
Philip Morris	121[illegible]	120[illegible]
Phillips Pet	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Pitney Bowes	60	59[illegible]
Polaroid	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Procter & Gmbl	123[illegible]	123[illegible]
Providian	55[illegible]	54[illegible]
Pub Serv E & G	27[illegible]	27[illegible]
Quaker Oats	35[illegible]	34[illegible]
Ralston Purina	80[illegible]	80[illegible]
Raychem Corp	85[illegible]	85[illegible]
Raytheon	45[illegible]	45
Reebok Intl	48[illegible]	48[illegible]
Reynolds Metals	61[illegible]	61
Rockwell Intl	68[illegible]	69
Rohm & Haas	86[illegible]	86[illegible]
Royal Dutch	177[illegible]	176[illegible]
Rubbermaid	24[illegible]	24[illegible]
SBC Comms	55[illegible]	55[illegible]
Safeco Corp	40[illegible]	40[illegible]
St Paul's Cos	70	70[illegible]
Salomon Inc	58[illegible]	58
Sara Lee Corp	39	38[illegible]
Schering Plough	77[illegible]	77
Schlumberger	105[illegible]	104[illegible]
Seagram	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Sears Roebuck	51[illegible]	52[illegible]
Shell Trans	104	103[illegible]
Sherwin Wllms	56[illegible]	56[illegible]
Skyline Corp	23[illegible]	23[illegible]
Snap-On-Tools	38[illegible]	39[illegible]
Southern Co	21[illegible]	21[illegible]
Sprint Corp	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Stanley Works	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Sun Company	26[illegible]	26[illegible]
Sun Microsys	34	33[illegible]
Suntrust	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Supervalu	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Sysco Corp	33[illegible]	33[illegible]
TRW Inc	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
TCC Inds	1[illegible]	1[illegible]
Tandem Comp	13[illegible]	13[illegible]
Tandy Corp	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Temple Inland	55[illegible]	56[illegible]
Tenneco	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
Texaco	103[illegible]	103[illegible]
Texas Instr	78[illegible]	76[illegible]
Texas Utilities	41[illegible]	40[illegible]
Textron	98[illegible]	98[illegible]
Time Warner	42[illegible]	41[illegible]
Times-Mirror A	48[illegible]	48[illegible]
Timken	53[illegible]	52[illegible]
Torchmark	53[illegible]	53[illegible]
Toys R Us	24[illegible]	25
Transamerica	84[illegible]	85
Travelers	54[illegible]	52[illegible]
Tribune	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Tyco Int	58	57[illegible]
UST Inc	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
UAL	59[illegible]	59
US Inds	33[illegible]	33[illegible]
US West Comm	33[illegible]	33[illegible]
US West Media	19[illegible]	18[illegible]
USX Marathon	28	27[illegible]
Unicom	23	23[illegible]
Unilever NV	178[illegible]	179[illegible]
Union Camp	49[illegible]	49
Union Carbide	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Union Pacific	60	60[illegible]
Unisys Corp	6[illegible]	6[illegible]
USAIR Group	19[illegible]	19[illegible]
USF&G Corp	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
US Life	40[illegible]	41[illegible]
United Tech	75[illegible]	74
Unocal Corp	42[illegible]	42[illegible]
VF Corp	69[illegible]	69[illegible]
WMX Tech	32[illegible]	32
Wal-Mart Stores	24[illegible]	24[illegible]
Warner-Lambert	86[illegible]	85[illegible]
Wells Fargo	305[illegible]	304[illegible]
Westinghouse El	18[illegible]	17[illegible]
Weyerhaeuser	46[illegible]	46[illegible]
Whirlpool	51[illegible]	50[illegible]
Whitman	23[illegible]	23[illegible]
Winn Dixie	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Woolworth	19[illegible]	19[illegible]
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	60	60
Xerox	57	56
Yellow Corp	16[illegible]	16[illegible]

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

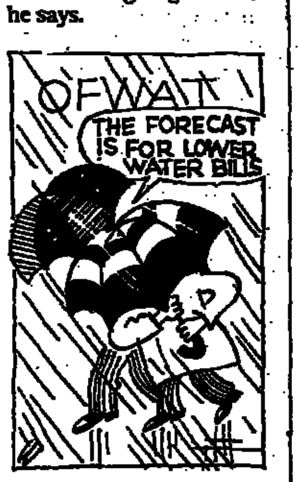
Loves Labour, lost position

ANIL BHOYRUL, *editor of Sunday Business,* is taking legal action against *the weekly publication for* unfair dismissal. After three months in the hot *seat, he claims that he* was fired because of political differences.

Bhoyrul, who co-founded the newspaper alongside Tom Rubython almost three years ago, has written many a leader attacking the Referendum Party. Luke Johnson, the paper's recently appointed chairman, is a Referendum candidate. "Writing a leader in praise of the Labour Party can't have helped my career," says Bhoyrul, who tells me he's *joining* the queue at the jobcentre. David Devoto, chief executive, refused to comment.

Out of spotlight

LIFE at the head of an international audio-visual equipment hire company ought to be glamorous. Travelling across the globe, supplying film equipment for the Olympics, high-calibre conferences, and movies such as *Evita* certainly sounds glamorous. Even this week, Bob Ellis, chief *excecutive of Visual Action* Holdings, was spotted at the Variety Club Showbusiness Awards, for which he generously provided the services of his company completely free. At last year's Oscars, however, Ellis avoided the Hollywood spotlight. He *nervously* watched the *events from the* comfort of his home instead. "I stayed up all night, but my wife insisted on going to bed," he says.


OFWAT
THE FORECAST IS FOR LOWER WATER BILLS

Taxing belief

MALCOLM BRUCE is preparing to cross swords with the Inland Revenue. The Treasury spokesman for the Liberal Democrats is taking up the case of a woman being charged 69p for three days' interest after she paid the Inland Revenue through her bank. Bruce says: "Only this Government is capable of spending £32.50 to save a few pence. A little human common sense could save a great deal of money and time. I intend to raise this matter with Treasury ministers at the earliest opportunity."

A DOUBLE blunder by the Inland Revenue. This week it was forced to fax a correction after citing the wrong address for its new inquiry room at South West Wing, Bush House. Too bad then that the Revenue's second fax, spelling out the correct address, was written on notepaper headed North West Wing, Bush House.

Polished off

HOW not to look after a top UK-rated oil analyst. On a trip to visit Anadarko in Houston *last week,* Warburg's *wunderkind Rob* Arnott was shown to his hotel room. Try as he might he couldn't find a bed. The *response* from reception? "Is that a problem, sir?" Worse still, there were no international telephones or hot water. When Arnott put in a call to have his shoes cleaned, as you do, the reply hardly surprised him: "The shoe cleaner died last week, sir."

MORAG PRESTON

A century after radio, Marconi could soon reinvent museums

George Simpson took over as managing director of the General Electric Company from Lord Weinstock, its *modern creator, five months ago.* Since then GEC has sold three companies for more than £100 million. More are expected to *follow, doubtless* demonstrating that Mr Simpson is just as tough-minded, profit-conscious and unsentimental as the legendary figure who sat in his seat so long. Allied to GEC's £2 billion of cash resources, they *could be the prelude to vast strategic deals to* unify Britain's electronics and defence industry — or cede more of it to French control. Exciting times ahead, perhaps.

Pending such earth-shattering moves, however, the wider public image of Mr Simpson's GEC may well be set by a deal with rather fewer noughts on the end, financially trivial in terms of this £10.7 billion multicontinental enterprise. GEC-Marconi, the electronics company at the centre of its operations, *has arranged to flog* in 1,000 lots at Christie's the company archive built by Guglielmo Marconi, *founder of his eponymous* company as well as much of the radio, telegraph and broadcasting industries. Only the best items *will be retained for their marketing value.*

The collection, which took five months to catalogue, covers anything from laboratory experiments to business letters from 1896 to the 1930s. It may fetch £1 million, though high prices for Marconigraphs from the Titanic at a previous Christie's sale could boost the total. GEC has 3,000 of them.

Correspondents to *The Times,* including the late Signor Marconi's daughter Elettra, have not, on the whole, been amused at such *"irresponsible" behaviour towards* "a national asset". The planned disposal is not, as harsher critics suggest, "for the sake of a little filthy *lucre*". In his response, Sir Geoffrey Pattie, the former minister who chairs GEC-Marconi, carefully links the proceeds with the making of a CD-Rom interactive disk of the Marconi story, "a high-tech solution of which Marconi would surely have approved", and a politically modish scheme to enthuse secondary school *teachers over electronics. Documents will be* copied and key radio experiments carefully reproduced for future scholars.

The archive is really being sold to dispose of a corporate embarrassment. This asset was so obscurely hidden that few outside the *industry and its academics* seemed to know about it. A study in 1995, before the company's disappointingly low-key centenary, found that the asset was a hidden liability. Purpose-built facilities to preserve the deteriorating collection could cost a whopping £11 million, consultants claim.

Sir Geoffrey explains that this would be "far more than the value of the archive".

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

This begs some questions. Would preserv*ing it not cost others just as much? Should* the masses of paper therefore be left to rot? Is market value the only value?

GEC has evolved a market solution. If the collection is dispersed, individual antiquaries would be willing to spend the more modest sums needed to preserve the value of what they had bought with good money. In applying the virtues of commercial logic, as well as the restrictions of commercial values, GEC invites a debate among companies and institutions, from the largest to the smallest, all over the country. Every church, school or parish archivist knows *that heritage can* be an embarrassment, beyond the crown jewels that everyone is interested in. There is a conflict between keeping things secure in the right conditions and the cost, let alone access for people to see them. Lucky are those who can use secure storage maintained at taxpayers' expense. Even then, someone has to choose which items are to be kept in such luxury. Doubtless; many will set their hopes on the overdrawn well of lottery money.

For big companies and most others, however, no such easy answer is available. There is no case for taxpayers to look after the papers of great companies, just to save shareholders the cost. They are responsible for their own heritage, like any other community, and should be held accountable for it. In the vogue competitive model of business, however, companies do not last for ever and cannot bear irrelevant overheads. Much of our industrial history has been lost in takeovers. More will be. Aside from selling ephemera to collectors, a sensible solution might be for companies to endow their archives when times are good and to contract out their care to properly financed commercial museum companies.

Before that can happen, a properly *commercial* archive *industry* would have to develop. Museums conform to the immutable Law of Morally Superior Bodies. Worthies believe their own higher purposes absolve them from standards they impose on ordinary folk. Newspapers are secretive, police cars habitually break speed limits, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds kills *birds — and, as lenders such as GEC-*Marconi have discovered, many museums lose treasures or stuff them in the attic for the rats. This will continue so long as they are above commercial disciplines and can blame slackness on lack of funds.

In our cash-measured age, museums undervalue free gifts just as much as those allowed to view them free undervalue the experience. If big companies apply their business acumen to their own archive *problems, they may help to revolutionise* museums and to give more hope for our less imediately glamourous heritage. Ideally, *museums should* contract with companies, donors and trusts for a fee to store and display treasures to legally enforceable standards. To help the transition, perhaps the Government should set up Offmuse to vet and certificate those authorised to hold the nation's archives.

This debate may do nothing for Mr Simpson's reputation as a corporate citizen. But it could offer great business opportunities for a new ethically conscious generation of venturers.

Union recognition proposal strikes fear into businesses

Labour must tread carefully with plans to protect workers, says **Philip Bassett**

"Never mind the social chapter and the minimum wage. Good argument for politicians, but *they won't matter in practice to* most of us. What we're concerned about is Labour bringing back the unions by bringing in a new law to give unions legal recognition. That's what worries us about Mr Blair."

Those are the words of the head of a medium-sized engineering company. Another *view from a Midlands firm is:* "We're not against unions. We're unionised, and that suits us. But we don't want those arrangements changed by a new law."

Signing up for the European social chapter and introducing a national minimum wage are two key aspects of Labour's economic policies that are *attracting a great deal* of business and political heat.

But behind them is a proposal which has drawn less scrutiny from the public, but is probably of greater interest to many companies: Labour's commitment to bring in new legal provisions to give trade unions a right to be recognised for collective bargaining if a majority of employees so desire.

The unions will tomorrow open their own pre-election campaign when they urge the UK's eight million union members to vote for the political party which offers most *rights for employees.* At the same time, Stephen Byers, the Shadow Employment Minister, will set out Labour's commitment to new employment rights in a speech to the Adam Smith Institute.

A minimum wage and the social chapter are key components of Labour's plans to set new minimum standards at work *if it wins* the election. Equally important is a commitment from Tony Blair to introduce two other rights: a right to representation, so that workers can use outsiders to help in talks with their employer; and a right for a union to be recognised if a majority — more than 50 per cent — of employees want it.

Many companies in the UK will be wholly unaffected by the minimum wage and the *social chapter.*

Their pay levels and conditions are already above the minimums *that would be* applied. But many would, at least potentially, be affected by a legal right to recognition. Less than 40 per cent of all workplaces in Britain now recognise trade unions; and many well-known companies are non-union, such as Marks & Spencer, *McDonald's,* IBM and Honda.

For many companies, the prospect of legally enforced unionisation is barely a reality. In service industries, for instance, where the proportion of the workforce who are union members is low — such as retailing and catering — current levels of unionisation and high labour turnover mean that the possibility of a majority of employees voting *for a union is highly remote.*

But in other areas, such as engineering or printing, the prospect of a legal reintroduction of unions is real. Behind the scenes, a number of large companies have been lobbying Labour leaders to try to ease back their plans. "The newspaper industry will be a key battleground," acknowledges one employers' leader.

Some employers are already going further. Singapore Airlines, for instance, has recently transferred all its UK pilots — with their agreement and as part of an overall package — to employment contracts under local Singapore law so they are no longer covered by UK job legislation.

Labour leaders have been quietly taking soundings on their *recognition plans with* unions, the TUC and with employers. Relations between Mr Blair's new Labour and the unions have at times been tempestuous, and the party *leader* has made it clear that he will, if in government, grant the unions no favours. Labour is committed to union recognition because it believes that it will benefit employees, *not because it sees it as the* party's job to help unions to do what they have failed to do themselves — *win new members* and new recognition deals.

Key union leaders, like John Monks, the TUC General Secretary who launches the TUC's campaign tomorrow, accept that unions have to prove their worth. They recognise that the best means of averting employer opposition *to unions is to demonstrate* how unions can help businesses.

The *AEEU* engineering union, for instance, is doing just that by sending glossy promotional packages to a range of potential inward-investor companies. The packages include warm endorsements from the likes of Toyota, BA, Electrolux, Nissan, Bosch, Sharp and Vauxhall.

Labour has learnt some hard lessons from its own *past, from the days in the last* Labour Government of the 1970s, when statutory union recognition was in force.

Grunwick, a north London photoprocessing plant that refused to grant union recognition and became the scene of heavy and often violent picketing, showed that the provisions were largely unworkable *— and research since then has* shown that they generated few new union members in any case.

Labour will be content if employees don't want unions because they are already satisfied with their job conditions. For example, Labour leaders privately do not expect Marks & Spencer employees to want *union recognition. But the* party believes that intimidation of employees remains rife at many companies, and union recognition will help.

Labour leaders are aware of the minefield of potential difficulties posed by the recognition commitment, such as how to define the bargaining unit covered by the majority vote provision.

There is also the question of whether to put one or more unions on any ballot; and if only one, who should act to choose which one needs to be addressed. *How to enforce the* law and how to act if an employer refuses to accept a *legal ruling is also important.*

If Labour does win the election, Whitehall officials, well versed in such arguments, will have carefully considered proposals waiting *on ministers'* desks, setting out detailed plans on how to put into practice the pledge on recognition. Labour is already working on the details of its *own proposals.*

Poll evidence shows that, on many issues, business looks upon new Labour more favourably than it has looked upon the Labour Party in the past. Despite the sound and fury that they generate, business leaders acknowledge privately that a minimum wage and the social chapter will be *marginal questions for many* companies.

However, union recognition *is deeper and more central to* many companies. Business is bracing itself, if not for an open fight over the issue, then for having to come to terms with a move that is of growing concern.

History lesson: violence at the Grunwick picket line remains a vivid memory

BUSINESS LETTERS

DTI's Sector Challenge inclined towards competitive disadvantage

From the Deputy Chairman of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council

Sir, Does the Government understand or even want to understand how business really works? Do they want to make business more efficient? Do they want to *increase exports? If so, the* latest baffling scheme from the DTI is an absolute gem.

For many years the DTI has made a contribution towards the expenses of new exporters (mainly small to medium-sized companies) who attend overseas trade fairs. This contribution has always been modest, costing *only £17 million for the* current year, and has had the benefit of being simple to administer and highly effective. In the case of my own industry, exports of £3 billion were achieved in 1996 so there can be little doubt that the Government's money has been well spent on us (less than £1.5 million to take *1,000 new exporters to* around 50 overseas trade fairs).

All this is now being put at risk because, according to Anthony Nelson, the Trade Minister, this Trade Fair Support Scheme (TFSS) will be replaced with a Byzantine scheme called "Sector Challenge". What this means is that each trade association wishing to provide support to their exporting members through overseas trade shows will have to compete *for funds from the DTI by* putting forward individual proposals. Not only does this absorb huge amounts of time from the already overworked staff of trade associations but it also must involve huge amounts of time on the part of civil servants who have to assess them.

If this is what the Govern*ment means by competition* then all of us who actually do the work will have to reassess what we understand by competitive advantage because in this instance it clearly is competitive disadvantage. If responsible trade associations can no longer rely on DTI support, then this esential component of Britain's *export effort* will soon wither.

Yours faithfully,
TONY LANGFORD,
John Smedley Limited,
Lea Mills,
Matlock, Derbyshire.

Genetic tests pose confidentiality dilemma

From Dr C. Gardner-Thorpe

Sir, You report (Insurers demand genetic results, February 3) that the Association of British Insurers has ruled out mandatory genetic tests for all.

Nevertheless, those who have already taken genetic tests may have to declare the results when applying for a *new policy.*

On the one hand, mandatory tests (which have been debated previously in these columns) would force (actively or by inference) unwelcome genetic knowledge on some persons, and consequently their families.

On the other hand, information already available to *the policy applicant but not* disclosed to the insurer *would confer an unfair and* significant disadvantage on the insurer. Disclosure of this sort of information would seem appropriate, therefore.

However, there is a real risk here that confidential information about an applicant at risk could be used inappropriately in relation *to applications from other* members of his family. Once confidentiality is broken, it cannot be restored and information of this sort needs to be treated with utmost secrecy.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER GARDNER-THORPE,
The Coach House,
1a College Road,
Exeter, Devon.

Requiescat Griffin

From Mr and Mrs John Hart

Sir, I read (January 16) with dismay — and my wife with grief — that Midland Bank's new owners from China or *somewhere intend to kill off* Griffin.

Are they mad? Poor Griffin, so *simpatico. We have* one, sold to my wife at our branch long ago where the *staff proudly produced him* and others like him for charity. He now wears socks. In time he will be valuable, probably more than the bank.

Is there no whimsy left in the counting-houses of the Orient, to which even our high street banks are in *hock? A number of accounts* may well be closed because of this jejune outlook. After all, *there is another high* street bank with rather a nice horse for an emblem.

Yours in sorrow,
JOHN AND IRENE HART,
11 Mountview, NW7.

Deadline nears for NatWest/The Times business ethics competition

A search for more than tunnel vision

Protesters like Swampy present a problem that has to be overcome

Time is running out for students who want to advise the managing director of Go-Build how to turn his company around and avoid job cuts. The closing date for entries for this year's Business Ethics competition, sponsored by the NatWest Group and *The Times,* is February 28.

A moral dilemma relating to the contract to build a motorway, as tunnelling environmental activists try to thwart its construction, has been *posed and undergraduates studying* for a first degree are asked to put themselves in the place of the industry's decision makers and to produce solutions to the ethical problems.

Entry forms containing the full details of the problem posed can be obtained from NatWest branches or from *Anthony Fisher, NatWest/The Times* Business Ethics Competition, Room 217, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

The competition is aimed at raising the level of the business ethics debate and to relate real-life problems to academic studies. The judges are led by Derek Wanless, chief executive of NatWest. Other members are John Drummond, the managing director of Integrity Works, a business ethics consultancy, John Monks, the general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, Julia Neuberger, chairman of Camden and Islington Community Health Services *NHS Trust, and Lindsay Cook,* business editor of *The Times.*

The first prize is £3,000, with a matching cheque for the *winner's* college. Second prize is £2,000 and third prize £1,000 to both student and college.

Entrants have to write an essay *detailing how to deal with the problem* facing Go-Build, which may go bust if it does not proceed with the contract, which is likely to meet much opposition. The writers of the best six essays will be invited to meet the judges to discuss their essays, to respond to a development in the dilemma and to join in a group discussion led by Mr Drummond.

Last year's competition featured the problem of a supermarket chain that wanted to relocate from an unprofitable suburban store to a much larger city centre building despite local oppo*sition. Chris* Ayres, *who was studying* at Hull University, just made the final six, but when he arrived to debate the further developments he quickly showed his grasp of local politics, problem solving and ethics. He suggested that the store should be kept open for a further two months in which *time the supermarket chain would find* a bus company willing to transport its former customers to the new site.

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6

ACCOUNTANCY

Treasury targets tax avoidance after VAT's missing billions

Richard Watson looks at how the Budget will shift the ground rules

DES JENSON

Richard Watson says even VAT planning has its limitations

How much are VAT advisers worth? This has always been a difficult question for the profession and its clients to answer. Fortunately, we can all stop worrying about it because the National Audit Office has told us — £2 billion. That is its estimate of the amount that the profession saved its clients — and hence cost in revenue — in 1995-96.

VAT hit the headlines last year when it was realised that some £5 billion of the tax had gone astray between the Treasury's estimate and Customs and Excise's bank account. One suspects that the first reaction of the Treasury was to blame Customs for not collecting the tax properly, while the first reaction of Customs was to blame the Treasury for getting its estimates wrong. In a compromise, they said revised estimates showed only £1 billion of revenue was missing. The Chancellor thought this was serious enough, and told them to do something about it.

In true Civil Service fashion, the result was a committee. Its report is of course secret, but the National Audit Office has given us the gist.

There is a statistical relationship between the yield of VAT and the underlyng pattern of consumer expenditure. VAT is a tax on consumer expenditure and one might therefore expect its receipts to match expenditure changes quite closely. The problem is that only about 60 per cent of consumer expenditure is subject to VAT. The rest is either zero-rated or exempt.

Because of this variation in the tax burden on different types of expenditure, it has long been known that VAT revenues have a different relationship to consumer expenditure at different points in the economic cycle. When money is scarce, people spend less on luxuries and proportionately more on necessities, which are exactly the things that tend to be zero-rated. The Treasury statisticians, therefore, expect that, as the economy goes into recession, the VAT revenues from a given level of consumer expenditure will decline, but the normal relationship will resume when the economy comes out of recession. This is what did *not* happen last year.

Of the £5 billion original revenue loss, the committee has decided that £2 billion is due to improved effectiveness in tax avoidance. It produced no evidence for this figure and until it does, it must be questionable as to whether it is even in the right area of magnitude. VAT planning is a wonderful thing, but it has its limitations! Nor is it credible that avoidance has suddenly burgeoned in this particular year. VAT planning has existed almost since the start of the tax and, though the process has accelerated in recent years (fed by the very recession which seems to have caused the problem in the first place), it certainly has not been limited to 1995-96.

The committee also noted "greater than expected losses from a range of tax regime changes … and from successful legal challenges to the department's interpretation of VAT law". This means that Customs has lost more cases in the courts and taxpayers have taken advantage of their ability to recover tax in comparable situations.

The Chancellor has now taken action to limit this effect by restricting claims for back-tax to three years and imposing more stringent requirements on their nature. In future, where tax has been passed on, Customs will claim unjust enrichment. It will then be for the claimant to prove the amount of his loss.

One thing is now clear. Customs, supported strongly by Treasury ministers, intends to deal once and for all with the problem of tax avoidance. This Budget has seen a wide range of weapons deployed against avoidance. Not long ago, the talk was of acceptable and unacceptable avoidance. It is no longer clear whether any avoidance is acceptable, and the tenets of the Duke of Westminster's case, which recognised the importance for the taxpayer of being able to arrange his affairs in such a way as to minimise the amount of tax payable now seem to be well and truly in their coffin.

Richard Watson is Head of Indirect Taxation at Price Waterhouse.

History offers hope on radical proposals

IT IS always disconcerting to find that, having commissioned an independent report into your organisation's workings, it doesn't come up with the findings you expected. Take the Gerrard Report on the English ICA.

Spot of bother at the old place, disastrous climbdown over failed merger with another accountancy body, small membership rebellion over perception of power being concentrated at the centre, members worried about lack of communication, all these issues triggered the obvious reaction. In an ostensibly democratic body there is only one consequence of a period of perceived uncertainty: a call, in the largest capital letters possible, for strong leadership. Dozens will call for it. But they will all want their own brand of strong leadership. This is then followed, inevitably, by a call for a director-general. If only there was one person to provide the leadership, appear nightly on the TV news saying what good people chartered accountants are, sort out the subscriptions, then all would be well again. But supporters of director-generals only want their own views trumpeted. Someone else's views are definitely not strong leadership. The English ICA has periods when it vanishes into this black hole of squabbling among its more vociferous members. And the traditional answer is to have a constitutional review conducted by someone known for his independence. In 1983 it was genial Bob Tricker. He invented the idea of faculties and horrified the institute with the concept. Yet, now faculties are seen as one of its great successes. This time it was Peter Gerrard, the past senior partner of Lovell White Durrant, the City law firm, who conducted the review. And again the members and secretariat of the institute are up in arms at the review's conclusions. Hiring a lawyer for the job is reckoned to have been taking the idea of independence of view too far.

ROBERT BRUCE

Partly they have a point. There is more than a hint of old-style lawyer culture in Gerrard's obvious dislike of boards representing members in business and industry. Once upon a time a chap who left practice for the vulgar world of commerce was considered to be in self-imposed outer darkness — no need for boards to look after the fellow's interest. But the point which has animated the institute the most is that Gerrard says the rank and file membership is talking nonsense and that the policies which were causing the membership unrest in the first place should be intensified rather than reversed.

This is the vexed question of concentration of power. The membership revolt that overturned education proposals was motivated by the idea that the institute's executive had grabbed too much power and was still doing so. Grassroots activists saw this growing centralisation as a challenge to the theoretically democratic roots of a professional institute. Gerrard was to be their saviour.

But instead he has advocated the opposite. "I have taken note of the view," Gerrard says in his review, "that what the institute needs is not more central authority, but less." The institute's critics would agree. But they would then go on to strip the executive of its powers and provide the levers for greater membership control through strengthening the grassroots district societies. Instead, Gerrard continues: "I believe that that concern arises, at least in part, from the prevailing uncertainty about where power lies, the assumption being, (on the part of those who hold this view) that it is somewhere in the centre and that centrality and lack of accountability go together."

Having reached that conclusion, he produces the opposite solution to that expected by institute members. "My proposed restructuring aims to meet that concern by removing the uncertainty." And how do you remove the uncertainty? You make it ever more obvious that the executive is in charge — not the members. "Central control does not mean that there cannot be a diversity of expressed opinions. What it does is to provide a safeguard against the left hand appearing not to know what the right hand is doing." Then he suggests axeing a third of the council and removing central funding from the district societies. You can see why the sort of members whose uproar provoked the review may be more than upset at its conclusions. The view of one aghast member who followed his comment of "why did we commission it?" at last week's council meeting with an even more heartfelt "we've got the wrong report" is probably being echoed around the country.

They should take heart from history. The debate over the report will be lengthy and involve many a working party. A gradualist approach will be taken. And before long the radical proposals of yesteryear will become the commonsense of the present.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Masters of reform

IT SEEMED no coincidence that a vice-president promising radical and reforming times was elected at the same English ICA council meeting which last week discussed the Gerrard Report. This also advocates radical and reforming ideas, so many of the council would like it quietly buried. In particular they would like to see the back of the suggestion that the number of council members should be reduced by about 30. The new vice-president, Sheila Masters, of KPMG, favours such ideas.

And worried members have noted that the number of members voting against her totalled 31. No difficulty in working out who is going to lose their seats then.

Naval gazing

CHRIS SWINSON, BDO Stoy Hayward partner and architect of the profession's new review board plans, is a nautical historian in his spare time. His heart of hearts is of oak rather than double entry. And he has often said his finest achievement is to have been part of the team organising the restoration of *HMS Victory*. So it is good to see him installed as a trustee of the body intended to protect and preserve the Royal Naval College at Greenwich.

Head count

COMMENTS made last week by Mike Rake, the chief operating officer at KPMG, sent partners in other firms scurrying for pencils and the backs of envelopes. He had suggested that 75 new people a week were joining the London office. "Surely not," says our man in the back bar of the Old Dr Butler's Head. "That would mean almost 4,000 in the year. Very hard to sustain." And then he thought again. "Unless there are 75 leaving every week as well." Surely not.

ROBERT BRUCE

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES

Do you want to make a movie?

Today *The Times* gives you the chance of a lifetime — to make a movie. In an exciting cross-media competition, in association with Faber and Faber, Dillons The Bookstore, Sky Movies and *Esquire* magazine, and in association with Arri (GB) Ltd, you can win an Arriflex camera worth **£56,000**. Arriflex cameras are the most widely used to make motion pictures and our prize is similar to the camera cult director Robert Rodriguez used to make *El Mariachi*.

At 23 Rodriguez proved anyone with artistic skill and determination can make a successful film on a low budget. Now you have an opportunity to be a film director just like him.

All you have to do is answer the five questions on our competition entry form and tell us, in 20 words or less, what your movie would be about. You will find the answers in Rodriguez's *Rebel Without a Crew* published by Faber and Faber and on sale exclusively at all Dillons The Bookstores, at the special price of £6. The book tells how Rodriguez made *El Mariachi* on a shoestring — and with a handheld camera.

First prize is an Arriflex 16 SR3, a state-of-the-art motion picture camera worth **£56,000**. The winner will meet Rodriguez and attend a film-making masterclass given by the director himself.

There are ten runners-up prizes of Sony HandyCams plus Fuji Film and signed copies of *Rebel Without a Crew*.

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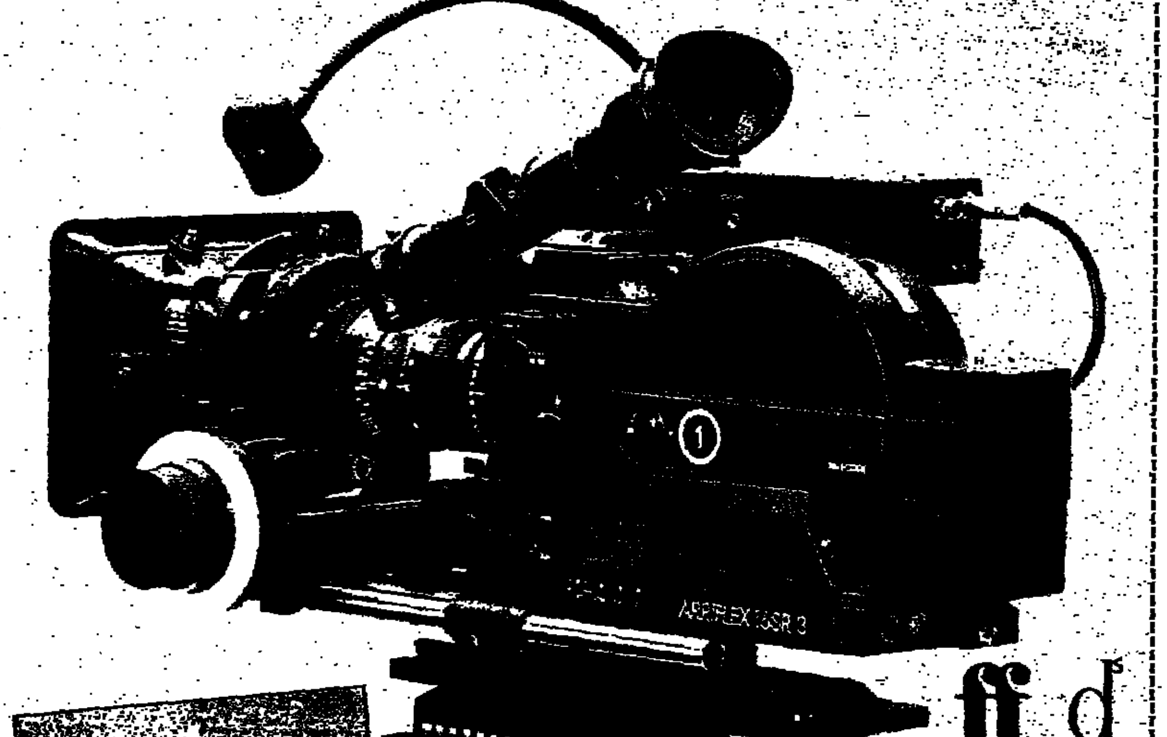

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HOW TO ENTER

You will find the answers to the questions in *Rebel Without a Crew*. If you have not read the book, you can buy it by credit card on: 0171-510 0104 or use the order form left. You can also buy the special edition which has a competition entry form printed inside at any branch of Dillons The Bookstores. Post the entry form (one also appears right) to: *The Times* Do You Want to Make a Movie Competition, PO Box 6885, London E2 8SR. The closing date for entries is Wednesday April 2, 1997. All correct entries will be judged by a panel consisting of Robert Rodriguez, and representatives from *The Times*, Faber and Faber, *Esquire* magazine and Arri (GB) Ltd.

THE MOVIE COMPETITION

Post this entry form to: ***The Times*** **Do You Want to Make a Movie Competition, PO Box 6885, London E2 8SR.** Closing date: *April 2, 1997. The winners will be the persons who* correctly answer the five questions and who, in the opinion of the judges, submit the most apt and original description telling *us what their film would be about. Normal TNL competition rules* apply, available on request.

1. In which city are most of Woody Allen's films shot?

....

2. Robert Rodriguez was 23 when he made his first film. How old was Steven Spielberg when he made Jaws?

....

3. Which [illegible] him when he was a Lab R[illegible]

....

4. What is th[illegible] comic [illegible] Robert Rodriguez wrote for the [illegible]

....

5. At w[illegible] Robert Rodriguez [illegible] Tarant[illegible]

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Tell us in 20 words or less what your movie would be about

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COMPETITION RULES 1. Entries, limited to persons aged 12 years and above, must be on an official entry form available from either *The Times* or *Esquire Magazine*. Entry forms are also available in copies of *Rebel Without a Crew* by Robert Rodriguez, available at Dillons The Bookstore. No purchase necessary. 2. Entries must be received by first post Wednesday April 2, 1997. No photocopies will be accepted. 3. There is no limit to the number of entries an individual may submit provided each one is on an official entry form. 4. The competition will be judged by the panel by Friday April 25, 1997. 5. The first prize winner will be selected from all correct entries and will be the person who, in the opinion of the judges, submits the most apt and original description of the film they would like to make. 6. Ten runners-up will each receive a Sony HandyCam and Fuji Film and signed copies of *Rebel Without a Crew*. 7. The decision of the judging panel is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 8. Winners will be notified by post after May 9, 1997. 9. The winners must agree to publicity and normal *Times Newspapers Ltd* competition rules apply, available on request. 10. The Arriflex 16SR 3 camera the winner will get consists of: zoom lens, matte box, magazines, batteries and charger (camera pictured above may have certain extras not included in the prize).

CHANGING TIMES

February 12, 1997 Tot: 53643 Call: 25770 Put: 27873 FTSE Call: 3901 Put: 8567 *Underlying security price. | Apr May Jun | Unilever | Zurich | Source: Extel | 2.3510-2.3724 | 2.3594-2.3628 | Premium · pr. Discount · ds. | Land Secs 2,400 Wolseley 1,800 | Legal & Gn 5,000 Zeneca 1,200 | Eastman Chem | Eastman Kodak | Occidental Pet | Ohio Edison

shoppers spilled out of the scepticism.

Sharp rise predicted in level of City and corporate fraud

By Robert Miller

CORPORATE and City fraud is expected to rise sharply over the next five years, according to an authoritative survey published today.

The report, conducted through *Accountancy Age* magazine for the audit faculty of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, says the likely rise in fraud can be blamed on lower standards of personal ethics, increased pressure on individuals to perform and the impact of smaller workforces.

Nearly 70 per cent of those who responded to the survey identified misrepresentation of results as the area of fraud that would have the greatest impact on British companies in the next five years.

Ian Huntington, a partner at KMPG, the accountant, and a member of the Audit Faculty fraud working party, said that such a situation could arise when a poor-performing division within a company was set a series of sales targets. In order to achieve the targets certain types of sales could be "created" to give the impression that the targets had been met.

The other key risk areas identified were tender-fixing (53 per cent), transactions with related parties and the manipulation of computer programs (both 40 per cent). The latter two areas were considered the most difficult to detect, with 52 per cent again mentioning computers.

Tender-fixing, which often involves people within a company or organisation feeding useful inside information to help bidders pitch their contracts at the right level, has now become a European-wide issue. Per Brix Knudsen, director of the European Commission's anti-fraud co-ordination unit, recently warned that international fraudsters were turning to frauds involving public procurement and tendering for public contracts. These include bribes to gain lucrative grants and financial assistance.

Respondents to the survey said that legislation to protect "whistleblowers" and improvement of anti-fraud measures by company management were likely to be the most effective method of reducing the incidence or effects of fraud. The report concluded that the development of an anti-fraud policy, and an annual review of fraud risk by organisations, would ensure that internal controls were designed to prevent and detect fraud.

Gerry Archer, chairman of the audit faculty, said: "As the survey shows, fraud is expected to become an even greater problem in the next few years and it underlines the importance of a concerted effort by government, business and the professional to tackle this issue."

Increase in use of derivatives at UK companies

By Adam Jones

UK corporations and pension funds are increasingly using derivatives, the financial instruments that can cripple organisations when misused.

The Association of Corporate Treasurers (Act) published a study yesterday of ways its members are using derivatives to offset risk. Their growing popularity comes in the face of enormous losses suffered by some hapless enthusiasts, including a record $1.7 billion wiped from the finances of Orange County in America by interest rate speculation.

Act expects the UK trend to increase. Jeremy Wagener, director-general, said derivatives were a useful tool if used knowledgeably.

He said: "Almost all the derivatives scandals we have seen are failures in the management control, not in the derivatives themselves."

He said shareholders should be kept informed of a company's derivatives policy.

David Creed, group treasurer at Tate & Lyle, said directors have a responsibility to understand and monitor the use of derivatives at their company. He said: "Directors do need to ask some pointed questions." But he added that derivatives have a reputation encompassing "fear, difficulty and black-art mathematics" that was not always deserved. He said: "They are just financial instruments."

One of the most striking uses of derivatives highlighted by Act followed the reorganisation of ICI's pension fund after the demerger with Zeneca. The demerger had left ICI with a higher proportion of pensioners to contributors.

Trustees gave the go-ahead for up to £1 billion to be committed to futures contracts. They were needed to safeguard against potential losses from market rises during £2 billion of equity shuffling. Individual prices can be inflated by 5 per cent or more when the market spots this kind of activity.

The cost of the re-organisation could thus have wiped out the intended strategic benefits. ICI bought £200 million of gilt futures and sold £200 million of equity futures as a hedge. The strategy worked and the contracts were ended after the transition.

Medway Insurance seeks entry to AIM

Medway Insurance Group is to seek entry to the Alternative Investment Market by way of a share placing.

The company, set up in December as a Lloyd's-orientated, US-licensed insurance company, is to raise about £70 million to finance the $54 million acquisition of Hansa Re, a US-licensed insurer, from Focus Insurance Holdings and to provide additional working capital.

Hansa Re has multi-line insurance licences in 16 states, including New York, California and Texas, and has reinsurance-only licences or is an accredited reinsurer in a further 19. It hopes to increase its multi-line licences to cover all 50 states as soon as possible.

Hansa Re is to be renamed Medway Insurance Company, and recapitalised with net assets of $100 million.

Internet boost

Internet Technology, the Internet connection company that reversed into two AIM-listed property firms last year, said business had risen by 50 per cent in the past five months. However, costs of the takeover pushed pre-tax losses to £1 million (£8,000 loss) for the year to October 31. There is no dividend. Laurence Blackall, chief executive, said most of the property acquired with Capital & Western and Ballynatary had been sold at a profit.

Freeport up

Freeport Leisure, the operator of factory outlet shopping villages, more than doubled pre-tax profits to £1.02 million, from £502,000, in its half year to December 28. Turnover rose to £3.2 million, from £2.1 million. Earnings per share were 3.4p, up from 2.7p. There is no interim dividend, but Freeport proposes to recommend a final dividend. The shares rose 5p to 128½p.

Standard post

Jim Spowart, former managing director of Direct Line financial services, is to join Standard Life on Monday as general manager (banking services). He will be responsible for the mutual's existing deposit-taking facilities and for the development of other personal banking services. He will report to Jim Stretton, chief executive of UK operations.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Neville Davis said that Compel was benefiting as companies switched from mainframe to desktop computers

Compel climbs to half-time record

A STRONG performance in all activities helped Compel, the computer services group, to return record half-year results yesterday (Fraser Nelson writes).

The company, which sells and supports desktop computers, said it was continuing to benefit from the market's move away from large mainframe systems and towards smaller desktop computers.

Neville Davis, chairman, said that about 70 per cent of corporate computer budgets were now being spent on desktop systems, against 63 per cent last year and 50 per cent three years ago. He predicted that the growth rate would continue.

Compel secured two significant contracts over the year, and is deploying 60 of its staff to work full-time with the new clients.

He said that second-half results would be buoyed by the contribution of Hamilton, the computer rentals group it bought last month. Its shares gained 12½p to close at a six-month high of 201p yesterday.

Pre-tax profits of £1.7 million (£1.44 million) for the six months to December 31, lifted earnings to 7.09p (6.06p) per share. An interim dividend of 1.8p is due on May 2.

Aortech raises £4m by placing

By Fraser Nelson

AORTECH INTERNATIONAL, a Scottish manufacturer of mechanical heart valves, has raised £4.5 million through a placing on the Alternative Investment Market to fuel its attempt to break America's grip on the worldwide market.

The company, which makes its Ultracor tilting disc valve in Lanarkshire, will be valued at £24.1 million. It said that the money will allow the creation of a distribution network across Europe, working towards its target of a 15 per cent command of the global market in seven years.

More than 6,000 of its valves have been sold in 18 countries, but the company said the lack of a coherent network was impeding its growth. Worldwide sales of valves totalled $700 million in 1996. The market was dominated by US companies.

Aortech is forecasting sales of £2.17 million in the year to March 31, and a pre-tax loss of £1.16 million. It plans to break even later this year.

Gordon Wright, co-founder and chairman of the company, is buying back the distribution rights for Ultracor from one of his other companies for £750,000. He and Eddie McDaid, managing director, will both become paper millionaires after the placing, each gaining a shareholding worth £6.65 million.

Bell Lawrie White has placed 3.6 million shares with institutions at 125p apiece. Dealing in the shares begins on February 26.

Tempus, page 30

Exporters expound on success

BRITAIN's exporters believe that personal contacts are the most important factor when it comes to success abroad, according to a survey of 345 British businesses by the Chartered Institute of Marketing (Alasdair Murray writes).

More than 50 per cent of companies said export strategies were influenced by who they knew and by first-hand information on market conditions. The survey suggests local contacts are considered more important in export decisions than exchange rate ivolatility, which was considered important by 42 per cent. Only 25 per cent considered the impact of regulations and tariffs as the most important issue, while 13 per cent said that language barriers restricted their export programme.

Shares record for Commonwealth

From Rachel Bridge in Sydney

SHARES of Commonwealth Bank, Australia's biggest retail bank, rose to a record on the Australian stock exchange yesterday after the company unveiled an 11 per cent rise in first-half operating profits to A$602 million (£300 million), comfortably ahead of expectations.

Commonwealth shares rose 50 cents to A$13.91, well ahead of the A$10.45 price at which the Australian Government sold its remaining 50.4 per cent stake in the bank last July. Banking analysts had been looking for an operating profit of about A$550 million for the half year to December.

Most of the improvement in profits came from strong growth in lending volumes as a result of the bank's move to lead the way in cutting mortgage rates in the Australian market. David Murray, managing director, said: "The bank's decision last June to lower the standard variable home loan interest rate resulted in home lending growth above expectations. The strong growth in business volumes reflects the very positive response by customers to our determination to provide a competitive range of banking and financial services that meets their needs."

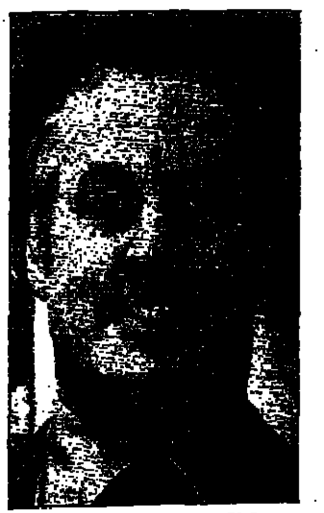
Commonwealth Bank yesterday announced a further 0.7 per cent reduction in its standard home loan rate to 7.55 per cent and a 0.4 per cent cut in its basic home loan rate to 6.95 per cent. Mr Murray said that the bank is now also likely to exceed profit expectations for the full year.

Life Sciences in line with forecasts at £24m

By Martin Barrow

LIFE SCIENCES International, the laboratory equipment company that has agreed to a £235.9 million takeover bid by Thermo Instrument Systems, of the United States, yesterday reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £23.89 million in 1996, from £20.7 million in the previous year.

The results, which were in line with an estimate given by the company when the bid was announced last month, included a net exceptional charge of £3.3 million, arising from a £7 million restructuring programme, offset by a £3.7 million gain on the liquidation of foreign exchange contracts. Profits before tax and exceptional items rose to £27.2 million, from £24 million.



Bland: difficult conditions

The company, whose chairman is Sir Christopher Bland, said the consolidation within the pharmaceutical industry and pressure on healthcare costs in developed countries continued to produce difficult trading conditions. These conditions were beginning to recede, although competition remains intense. The restructuring programme, aimed at reducing costs, is expected to yield additional pre-tax profits of £3.5 million a year.

Turnover last year rose to £229.97 million, from £204.8 million, bolstered by a full-year contribution from Spectronic Instruments, the American spectophotometer manufacturer acquired in 1995. Underlying sales growth, adjusted for the impact of acquisitions and currency fluctuations, was 8 per cent.

Earnings, fully diluted, rose to 8.6p a share from 7.8p. The total dividend is increased to 4.6p a share from 4.4p, with a second interim dividend of 3p.

Thermo said yesterday that it had received valid acceptances in respect of 63.84 per cent of Life Sciences. In addition, the bidder has acquired a 3.26 per cent interest. The offer has been extended until March 4.

RJB explores plan for clean coal power plant

By Our City Staff

RJB MINING has initiated a joint study with Texaco to explore the feasibility of developing Britain's first large-scale "clean coal" power station.

The proposed new station at Kellingley in West Yorkshire would incorporate technology currently in operation at a Texaco plant in Tampa, Florida, with a proven record for efficiency and emission reduction and could kick-start demand for similar projects.

RJB, the company that succeeded British Coal in England and Wales, is assessing plans for the development of a 400MW clean coal power station on a site adjacent to RJB's Kellingley colliery. The site has ready access to all the facilities needed to sustain new generation capacity, including fuel, access to the grid system, water and a skilled workforce.

Budge: exciting opportunity

Once planning consents have been obtained the clean coal power station would take about two years to construct. It would generate enough power to supply a city the size of Sheffield and would consume about one million tonnes of coal a year, just half the planned annual output of the Killingley mine, where 700 people are employed. It would incorporate Texaco's gasification technology in an integrated gasification combined cycle plant similar to the one in Tampa.

Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB, said: "This is an exciting opportunity offering the first commercial-scale development of clean coal technology in the UK."

Mr Budge said he hoped the project would encourage the development of other clean coal facilities to ensure the market for coal remained strong well into the next century.

He added: "We believe that, just as there are targets for renewable technologies, inside tracks for gas power stations and a levy to support the nuclear programme, there should be a programme for clean coal technology."

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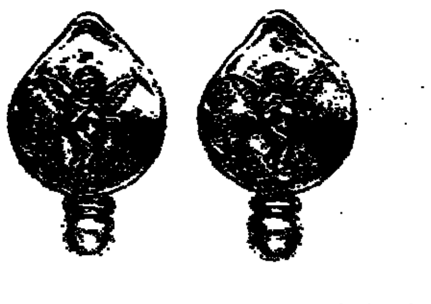
Bnd Excel	98.00	104.40		2.53
Bnd Fxd Int Acc	126.00	134.10	- 0.30	4.32
Bnd Fxd Int Inc	84.33	89.72	- 0.13	4.32
Global Opps	103.70	110.40	+ 0.70	
Balanced Acc	66.43	70.68	+ 0.08	2.38
Balanced Inc	62.03	65.99	+ 0.06	2.38
Japan Acc	36.63	38.97	+ 0.07	
Pac Basin Acc	410.30	436.50	+ 2.20	0.78
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	136.30	144.70	+ 0.20	6.57
High Inc Equity	195.10	207.70	+ 0.30	4.53
Worldwide Bond	267.90	284.10	- 1.30	4.71
American Growth	416.90	445.50	+ 1.68	0.37
Asian Pacific	336.80	360.20	+ 1.50	0.78
Assets & Earnings	325.30	347.90	+ 1.30	2.71
Euro Capital Acc	200.80	214.90	- 0.90	0.74
Extra Inc	43.70	45.25	- 0.01	7.98
General	290.30	308.80	+ 0.70	2.82
Global Opps	77.86	78.28	+ 0.03	0.51
Japan	86.90	93.03	+ 0.31	
Managed Inc	49.56	52.71	+ 0.02	4.27
Mastertrust	174.70	186.80		1.28
US Emerging Cos	194.63	207.00	- 1.10	
Ethical	89.36	94.00	+ 0.60	1.83
[illegible]	139.70	147.60	+ 0.30	0.68
Dividend & Growth	72.40	77.02	- 0.12	4.36
Global Gth & Gen	74.53	79.09	- 0.01	2.33
Latin America	77.03	81.95	+ 0.07	0.48
Capital Preserve	147.70	147.70		4.74
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2526.00	2626.90		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	64.46	66.95	+ 0.50	0.15
Emerging Mkts	78.34	81.59	- 0.10	0.04
European	160.90	167.30	- 0.10	
Extra Income #	51.13	53.81	- 0.03	6.05
Far East Emg Eco	135.10	136.40	- 0.10	0.46
Fixed Interest #	26.42	27.48	+ 0.05	9.02
Fund Inv Tst #	164.40	172.50	+ 1.00	9.63
Japan	151.10	157.10	+ 2.20	
Latin American	65.78	69.49	+ 0.21	0.70
Pacific	81.28	85.32	- 0.29	0.31
Property Share	80.09	84.03	- 0.06	2.09
UK Emerging Cos	75.72	81.30	+ 0.08	1.18
UK Growth	59.19	61.65	- 0.03	1.90
Abtrust World Port #	85.59	87.83	- 0.09	2.83
Ethical	82.47	85.77	- 0.09	2.06
[illegible] Gilt Inc #	51.00	51.04	- 0.07	7.26
ASHWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0171 256 5868				
[illegible] #	99.33	104.60		5.43
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	99.21	105.26	- 0.12	2.15
Income Builder Inc	85.96	91.45	+ 0.01	4.18
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC FA dlg 01793 610 366 Client dlg 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	326.30	326.30	- 0.30	2.85
Capital	562.20	580.30	- 0.50	1.06
Balanced	925.10	946.10	- 0.20	2.58
Accumulator	1776.00	1834.00	- 2.00	1.70
Income Trusts				
American Income	68.69	73.22	+ 0.02	2.18
High Income	492.70	526.50	- 0.80	4.05
Equity Income	275.00	293.80	- 0.70	3.70
High Yield	299.80	319.30	- 0.50	3.76
Gilt Securities	35.98	37.99	+ 0.01	5.75
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	240.50	256.50	+ 3.10	0.05
European Growth	60.03	64.05	+ 0.20	0.06
International	192.40	205.60	+ 1.90	0.11
Japan	156.10	165.80	+ 1.40	
Pacific	399.10	426.50	+ 3.60	
Secs of America	643.90	685.40	+ 7.50	0.11
Worldwide Asset Val	56.69	60.60	+ 0.50	0.82
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	690.40	748.10	- 0.80	1.85
Conv & Gilt	52.52	56.14	- 0.03	3.77
Smaller Cos	222.80	236.10	+ 0.30	0.96
2nd Smaller Cos	212.00	226.60	+ 0.30	0.82
Recovery	178.70	191.00	- 0.30	1.48
Met Min & Cdty	163.10	174.70	+ 0.70	0.18
Global Emerging	464.70	485.00	- 0.78	1.00
Technology	229.20	240.70	+ 1.90	
UK Special Sits	637.10	681.00	+ 0.30	0.92
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
[illegible] Pens	125.00	129.80		0
Foundtn Pend Pens	73.28	76.13		0
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	91.69	97.54	- 0.65	0.77
International	70.01	74.48	+ 0.37	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	358.40	382.60		
Bond	122.80	129.10		6.34
Brit Smlr Cos	120.00	128.30		1.74
Cons & Gen #	69.31	73.73		5.23
Europe	301.20	319.70		0.36
Euro Smlr Cos	129.60	137.90		0.57
Income Growth	400.60	426.20		4.41
Japan	259.30	275.80		
Latin American	98.14	104.40		0.63
Pacific	120.60	128.30		0.96
UK Smlr Cos	61.41	64.27		1.23
Japan Fd	507.70	523.30		
Mngd Fd	212.60	225.60		2.66
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Overs	395.50	418.30		0.86
Capital Gwth	137.90	145.30		2.95
[illegible]	234.90	248.50		0.87
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
[illegible]	403.60	429.20	- 0.60	2.01
[illegible]	99.36	102.40	- 0.10	5.78
Exempt	90.68	96.46	+ 0.01	2.52
500	537.00	577.40		2.09
General	353.52	376.00	- 0.20	2.12
Property	253.10	271.60		4.94
Trustee	245.90	261.50		2.17
Income Trusts				
[illegible]	107.56	109.50		5.82
[illegible] #	119.50	113.30	+ 0.10	5.83
[illegible] #	149.50	158.40	- 0.10	4.41
Gilt & Fxd Int	61.32	63.22	- 0.12	7.47
Income #	625.30	668.70	- 0.40	4.39
Income Builder #	73.20	78.60	+ 0.04	4.97
UK Income	75.03	79.69	- 0.05	2.27
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	154.60	164.50	- 0.10	1.73
[illegible]	109.50	116.60		2.43
Leisure	125.50	137.90	+ 0.80	1.07
Recovery	346.60	370.20	- 0.60	2.23
Smaller Cos	63.29	67.51	- 0.05	2.19
Special Sits	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.70	1.90
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.70	0.30
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.60	0.25
Far East Gwth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	0.25
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.70	0.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.70	2.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.60	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.10	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.27	
Worldwide	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.40	0.38
BARINGS FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.16	
Amer Smlr Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.40	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.21	4.61
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.50	0.30
Equity Income #	[illegible]	[illegible]		4.26
European Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 2.30	0.40
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.20	0.50
German Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.02	0.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.34	6.79
Global Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.80	0.46
Japan Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 3.30	
Japan Smaller	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	
Korea Trust	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.05	
Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.20	2.25
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.20	2.01
UK Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.20	3.09
UK Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.10	1.10
Select Managers	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.02	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
[illegible]	[illegible]	97.78		
[illegible]	68.60	[illegible]		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.25	1.29
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.29	1.22
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.28	0.48
[illegible] #	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.07	3.87
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.14	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.33	0.82
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.35	0.82
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.06	1.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.05	1.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.29	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.04	
[illegible] #	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.42	2.85
[illegible] #	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.54	2.85
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.07	
[illegible] #	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.10	8.19
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 430 7215				
[illegible]	61.60	62.49	- 0.05	6.30
[illegible] UNIT MANAGERS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	196.50	208.20	- 0.20	1.78
[illegible]	227.50	239.80		2.06
[illegible]	[illegible]	510.30	- 0.40	4.22
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	255.56	260.10	- 0.20	1.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.10	3.47
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	3.47
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.07	6.24
[illegible]	274.30	[illegible]	- 0.50	2.00
[illegible]	[illegible]	194.00	+ 0.30	6.40
Intl Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	0.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		0.09
Far East	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.10	0.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.50	1.07
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	0.47
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.29	
High Income	[illegible]	255.00	- 0.56	3.39
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD [illegible]				
American & Gen	[illegible]	247.90	+ 0.40	
European Inc	121.30	127.50	- 0.10	0.32
[illegible]	118.00	126.00	- 0.50	1.35
Growth	581.30	625.40	- 0.90	1.59
Income & Growth #	493.50	525.00	- 0.50	3.54
-do- Accum #	796.60	824.90	- 0.60	3.54
Japan & Gen	51.74	54.34	+ 0.52	
Master Portfolio	1129.50	1184.80	- 4.00	1.31
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 5.30	1.31
Special Sits	134.80	143.58	- 0.20	1.37
High Yield	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.00	3.08
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	106.37	112.95	- 0.03	2.14
American Portfolio	132.72	[illegible]	+ 1.55	1.07
European Portfolio	146.52	155.31	+ 0.45	0.58
High Income	53.61	[illegible]	- 0.02	1.27
Japanese Portfolio	52.51	55.77	- 0.03	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	163.80	176.22	+ 0.04	0.75
UK Equity	104.13	111.14	- 0.14	3.18
UK Equity & Bd	61.03	65.50	- 0.04	6.13
UK Smlr Cos	56.10	60.00	+ 0.08	1.25
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	820.42	832.82		4.11
Fxd Int Sec	161.60	162.24		8.81
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	804.78	816.94		4.21
Investment Acc	237.50	238.13		
Fixed Int Inc	129.44	129.96		8.93
Fixed Int Acc	241.11	242.07		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	88.43	93.24	- 0.80	5.27
Beck Bio-Tech	45.55	49.98		
Acorn Ethical Tst	191.62	201.22		0.42
City Fin Assets	83.39	87.57		1.75
City Fin Intl	89.11	93.57	- 0.79	0.14
Fourth Hse Cap	323.14	343.77†		2.30
Buckley Wrld Gth	144.82	151.29	+ 2.73	
J Sell Inc/Gth Inc	59.68	62.66		3.32
Shaw Utilities	65.30	66.70	- 0.01	6.64
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	58.05	61.59	- 0.03	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0345 772 233				
American Gwth	84.46	89.85	+ 0.16	
Dragon Growth	73.99	79.13	+ 0.42	0.24
Emrg High Inc	97.75	104.63	- 0.02	3.86
-do- Accum	142.40	152.43	- 0.02	3.86
Extra Income Inc	27.50	28.96†	+ 0.07	6.77
Extra Income Acc	30.70	32.33	+ 0.08	6.77
European Gwth	66.97	71.06	+ 0.05	0.45
Evergreen	31.84	34.05	- 0.01	
General Equity	114.05	121.01	+ 0.02	2.63
Japan Growth	37.05	39.42	+ 0.45	
Pedigree Gwth	68.79	73.68	- 0.12	2.11
Pacf Smr Cos Inc	40.80	43.87		0.99
-do- Accum	43.50	46.77		0.99
Retirement Inc #	29.88	31.82	- 0.03	5.59
Special Sits	50.55	54.35	+ 0.13	2.20
UK & Overseas	62.06	65.86	+ 0.25	0.48
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD 01634 898 000				
Balanced	74.12	77.20†		3.91
Capital	89.17	92.88†		2.47
High Income	53.70	55.93†		6.45
Top 50	60.88	63.41†		2.41
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	209.40	218.24	+ 0.33	4.21
Long Gilt	45.74	47.62†	+ 0.02	5.86
Monthly Inc Plus	52.79	55.00	+ 0.12	8.15
Preference Share	50.57	52.68†	+ 0.23	7.40
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	152.41	158.78†	+ 0.31	5.37
Managed Fund	79.65	82.98	+ 0.05	2.67
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	57.34	59.74	+ 0.05	1.59
-do- Accum	67.77	70.60	+ 0.04	1.59
UK & General	106.33	110.77	- 0.03	2.72
-do- Accum	139.91	145.75	- 0.05	2.72
UK Growth	210.30	219.09	- 3.98	1.38
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	226.16	235.61	- 1.80	0.61
Far Eastern Grth	129.56	134.96	+ 0.40	0.02
Global Bond	75.06	78.20	- 0.28	6.34
Japan Growth	89.41	93.15	+ 0.42	
North Amer Gth	260.47	271.35	+ 8.79	
Oriental Growth	87.10	90.74	+ 0.12	0.26
Worldwide Growth	74.33	77.44	+ 0.22	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.85	92.85	+ 0.01	5.24
[illegible] Fund	94.38	100.41†	+ 0.14	1.50
Quilter Fund	163.47	173.92†	- 0.30	2.07
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	37.43	39.99†		3.93
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	190.70	202.90	+ 0.30	1.29
Income	76.47	81.35†	+ 0.09	4.27
European	79.58	84.66	+ 0.29	0.60
Recovery	195.40	207.90	+ 0.20	2.28
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1043.40	1059.70		3.20
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 680 370				
Fellowship Tst	118.40	125.90	+ 0.40	1.09
Income #	302.00	321.20	- 0.80	4.36
-do- Accum #	806.20	857.50	- 0.79	4.36
Smaller Cos	249.10	265.00†	+ 0.20	0.90
-do- Accum	310.40	330.20	+ 0.30	0.90
Gth Portfolio	107.20	114.00†	- 0.10	1.24
High Inc Port #	88.26	93.89	+ 0.01	4.05
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1702.90	1736.20†		
UK Small Cos	2334.80	2430.60†		2.72
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	245.10	258.90		3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	185.20	197.00	- 0.20	1.64
UK High Inc Inc	191.80	204.00	- 0.20	3.49
-do- Accum	263.00	279.70	- 0.20	3.49
UK Pref & F I Inc	61.73	65.52	+ 0.19	5.65
Environmtl Opps	108.10	114.90		0.87
UK Smlr Cos #	77.38	82.31†	+ 0.26	0.97
Extra Income Inc	51.24	54.51†	+ 0.13	7.07
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 090 520				
Convertibles #	23.61	25.09	+ 0.03	5.59
Equity Income #	150.10	159.50	- 0.18	3.72
European	67.89	71.80	+ 0.80	0.56
Financial	63.20	67.15	+ 0.18	1.34
Growth & Inc #	307.20	326.40†	+ 0.40	2.68
High Dist #	191.40	203.40	+ 1.50	4.18
International	441.80	469.40	+ 3.40	0.11
Int Cap Inc	108.90	116.30†	+ 0.50	2.32
Latin American	35.24	37.44	+ 0.21	
Pacific	86.26	91.65	+ 0.56	
Pref High Inc	23.34	24.80†	- 0.01	7.26
Tokyo	177.70	188.10	+ 2.20	
UK Smaller Cos	280.90	296.80	+ 2.30	1.05
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
Jap Smlr Co	315.40	334.30	- 1.10	
Nth Amer	462.30	489.80	- 7.80	0.60
UK Inc & Gth	267.60	285.40	- 0.50	2.60
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
[illegible]	126.00	134.26		1.64
Growth Acc	282.10	301.96	- 17.06	0.64
Income	627.34	670.95†	+ 7.86	5.92
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7281				
Endurance Fd	231.20	246.00		0.55
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	96.47	101.55	+ 0.38	1.59
Ethical Tst	48.77	51.34	+ 0.45	0.96
Far Eastern	298.15	313.84	+ 3.25	1.45
High Income	152.04	160.24	- 0.12	4.50
UK Index Trckg	55.11	58.22	+ 0.02	2.35
Intl Growth	145.64	153.31	+ 0.24	0.53
North American	160.25	168.68	- 2.21	1.02
Pelican	154.06	162.17	- 0.17	2.03
Smaller Cos	78.40	82.55	- 0.07	2.52
Special Sits	97.23	102.35	- 0.20	2.82
Tst of Inv Tsts	224.57	236.39	- 2.43	1.20
For Evershed see Laurence Keen				
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	102.25	109.76	+ 0.42	
Fd of Inv Tsts	55.51	59.21	- 0.09	2.43
High Income #	40.96	43.90	- 0.06	10.48
Natural	87.09	91.13	- 0.07	
Zero Preference	40.50	42.33	+ 0.06	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	102.27	109.30	+ 0.10	2.50
United Charities	352.10	372.40	+ 0.50	1.30
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.70
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	25.87	27.20	- 0.02	5.76
Strategic Inc	29.10	29.46	- 0.04	5.77
Income Funds				
High Income	78.15	79.67		5.72
Income Plus	142.70	151.60	- 0.20	3.66
European Income	52.23	55.62	+ 0.17	2.60
UK Gen Gwth	34.35	36.57	+ 0.02	2.05
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	40.25	42.54	- 0.62	
American	353.50	[illegible]	- 2.12	
Amer Spec Sits	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.70	
Japan Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.16	
European	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.00	0.51
European Opps	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.43	0.02
Global Fin	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.13	0.31
UK Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.26	1.30
Growth & Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.15	2.25
Intl PEP	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.29	1.30
Japan Spec Sits	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.37	
Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.40	
Managed Intl	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.50	0.47
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.16	
Recovery	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.24	1.51
South E Asia	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.30	0.92
Special Sits	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 2.10	0.52
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 5.01	5.70
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	157.70	160.10	- 0.60	1.49
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.10	5.37
[illegible]	157.40	[illegible]	+ 0.30	1.31
General Eqty	150.40	151.36	- 0.50	3.29
Growth Inc	40.01	43.13	- 0.04	1.37
Private Portfolio	511.50	519.30	+ 1.50	1.15
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Dlg 01277 690 300 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	156.62	166.20	- 0.80	0.17
Emerg Mkts	139.70	144.20	+ 0.10	
High Income	24.63	26.05†	+ 0.05	9.36
UK Income #	119.52	127.40	- 2.30	4.17
US Smaller Cos	426.40	454.40	+ 0.80	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	81.73	87.08	- 0.08	
-do- Accum	91.78	97.08	- 0.08	
Amer Smllr Cos	670.40	717.00	- 5.10	
-do- Accum	684.10	732.50	- 5.10	
Capital Tst	424.50	451.60	- 0.40	1.09
-do- Accum	627.00	667.40	- 0.70	1.09
[illegible]	63.33	67.50	- 0.25	1.31
-do- Accum	67.36	71.91	+ 0.27	1.31
Convertible	145.43	155.70	- 0.10	5.10
-do- Accum	274.30	345.00†	- 0.27	5.10
Emerging Markets	67.06	71.65	+ 0.52	0.30
-do- Accum	67.53	72.21	+ 0.57	0.30
European	160.70	170.20	+ 0.60	0.50
-do- Accum	172.20	182.20	+ 0.50	0.50
Extra Income	426.10	451.90†	- 3.40	4.45
-do- Accum	654.40	698.40†	- 2.70	4.45
Financial	199.20	211.30	- 1.10	0.45
-do- Accum	201.70	213.90	- 1.20	0.46
Gilt Trust	64.76	66.78	+ 0.04	6.65
-do- Accum	150.70	183.80		6.65
Health Fund Inc	281.10	300.30		0.40

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	281.10	300.30	- 0.40	
Income & Growth	238.10	253.30	- 0.20	3.95
-do- Accum	384.50	409.10	- 0.50	3.95
Intl Growth	428.80	457.50	+ 2.50	
-do- Accum	476.10	508.00	+ 2.70	
Japan & Gen	132.70	141.10	+ 2.70	
-do- Accum	134.00	142.40	+ 2.70	
Monthly Inc #	208.50	221.80†		4.38
-do- Accum #	210.90	224.40†		4.38
Managed Port Inc	122.20	129.70	- 1.80	1.88
-do- Accum	133.80	140.80	- 2.10	1.88
Quarterly Income #	58.58	62.97†	- 0.02	5.28
-do- Accum #	68.84	73.63†	- 0.02	5.28
Recovery	337.90	361.40†	+ 1.20	
-do- Accum	396.90	426.68†	+ 1.50	
UK Growth	71.05	75.58	- 0.11	
-do- Accum	77.05	81.97	- 0.10	
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01722 715855 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	66.61	71.01	+ 0.12	0.07
FP Am Smllr Cos	201.30	214.70	- 0.30	
FP Asian Growth	292.40	311.80	+ 0.70	
FP Australian	419.10	447.00	+ 1.00	
FP Equity Dist	491.40	524.10	- 0.30	2.32
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]		2.22
FP Euro Gth	314.20	335.10	- 1.10	
-do- Accum	343.70	366.60	- 1.10	
FP Intl Bond	55.74	58.98†	- 0.33	3.97
FP Intl Gth Dist	38.91	41.50	+ 0.06	
-do- Accum	57.15	60.96	+ 0.10	
FP Pac Basin Acc	212.50	226.60	+ 0.80	
FP Income #	63.08	67.38	+ 0.21	4.64
-do- Accum #	224.20	239.10	+ 0.70	4.64
FP Jap Smllr Cos	222.20	237.00	- 1.10	
FP Monthly Dist #	79.80	85.12†	+ 0.32	5.20
FP Stg Deposit	100.40	100.40		5.22
FP Tokyo	63.39	67.61	+ 0.48	
FP UK Focus	45.31	48.33	- 0.05	1.47
FP UK Growth	213.50	227.70	- 0.20	2.00
-do- Accum	434.20	463.10	- 0.40	2.00
Stewardship Dist	475.50	507.20	- 0.50	1.12
-do- Accum	601.00	641.00	- 0.60	1.12
Stewardship Inc Dist #	83.84	89.42†	- 0.06	4.49
-do- Accum #	117.30	125.10	- 0.18	4.49
N Am Stship Dist	130.50	139.20	- 0.30	0.25
-do- Accum	140.50	149.80	- 0.30	0.25
FP Exempt Trust				
Intl Ethical Inc #	114.30	114.80	- 0.10	3.50
Intl Ethical Acc #	114.30	114.80	- 0.10	3.50
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grwth Acc	132.20	140.60	- 0.40	1.24
Open Cap Gth Acc	135.90	144.50	- 1.00	0.09
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	121.80	129.50†	- 0.10	3.09
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	130.30	138.60	- 0.20	3.09
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	126.30	134.30†	- 0.50	3.87
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	136.80	145.50	- 0.50	3.87
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 106/7				
GAMDA	318.60	338.00	+ 0.90	1.77
Cash	49.32	50.06†		4.83
Growth Portfolio	92.96	98.89†	+ 0.51	0.12
Income Portfolio	76.60	81.27†	+ 0.09	2.88
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 238 6441				
Special Sits	246.00	263.10	+ 1.20	0.29
Dividend	106.60	114.60†	+ 0.60	4.07
Intl Gth & Inc	266.10	284.60†	+ 0.90	2.25
UK & Gen	54.30	58.72	+ 0.48	7.41
Fund of Funds	78.57	84.03	- 0.37	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 628 9431				
American Smlr Cos	224.00	239.60	- 2.00	0.14
European Gth	792.50	844.50	+ 9.00	0.56
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	56.29	59.62	+ 0.01	5.08
-do- Accum	63.90	67.68	+ 0.011	5.06
Far East & Gen	275.40	294.50	+ 0.70	
High Yield #	51.35	54.33†	+ 0.12	7.38
-do- Accum #	58.42	61.81	+ 0.14	7.38
Income Inc	210.10	224.70	+ 0.10	3.83
-do- Accum	240.10	256.80	+ 0.10	3.83
Intl Growth	393.20	418.60	- 0.20	0.20
Intl Income	98.05	103.80		2.63
Japan Growth	403.10	427.40	- 0.70	
Orient Acc	212.80	227.60	- 0.20	0.13
UK General Inc	202.30	216.20†	+ 0.10	1.62
UK General Acc	363.00	388.10	+ 0.28	1.62
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	66.14	70.74	- 0.14	1.64
UK Spec Sits	111.50	119.30	+ 0.10	1.38
US Growth	194.70	207.00	- 1.60	
Wrldw Spec Sits	166.70	177.40	- 0.30	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	63.68	67.95†	- 0.44	2.00
Cash Trust	148.54	148.54†	+ 0.01	5.54
Practical Inv Inc #	128.51	137.51	- 0.27	3.50
-do- Accum #	311.10	332.73	- 0.66	3.50
UK Index	193.96	194.93	- 0.06	3.23
UK Smaller Cos	227.74	243.57	+ 0.86	0.25
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.59	26.52†	+ 0.07	7.20
High Income	37.10	39.53†	+ 0.01	4.50
UK Equity Income	169.29	181.17†	- 0.27	3.80
Global Bond	28.17	29.23	- 0.05	4.76
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	50.38	53.88	+ 0.10	
Global Managed	148.99	158.41	+ 0.28	0.91
Gold & Intl Res	111.56	119.32	- 0.64	
Global Utilities	156.67	167.09†	- 0.17	1.13
Overseas Funds				
American	213.34	226.29	+ 0.39	0.51
European	145.43	154.41	+ 0.34	0.51
Euro Sel Opps	224.98	233.07†	+ 0.57	
Amer Emerging	179.97	192.27	- 0.49	
Hong Kong	183.41	196.04	+ 0.91	1.14
Japan	178.66	187.65	+ 1.49	
Pacific Growth	234.32	251.67	+ 1.44	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	272.90	272.90†	+ 3.82	1.37
Long Term Bal	290.50	290.50†	+ 0.01	2.86
Med Term Bal	239.68	239.68†	- 0.21	2.86
UK Equity	321.67	321.67	- 4.62	2.43
UK Emerging Cos	194.65	194.65	+ 4.93	1.86
American	356.54	356.54	+ 1.44	0.43
Japan	102.01	102.81	+ 0.76	
European	377.97	377.97	+ 0.91	0.70
Index Linked Gilt	194.88	194.88	- 0.32	2.58
Fixed Interest	185.53	185.53†	+ 0.12	5.89
Amer Emerging	396.76	396.76	- 1.18	
Pacific	239.03	239.03	+ 1.05	0.77
Emerging Mkts	133.56	133.56†	+ 0.47	0.39
Index Strat Japan	109.15	109.15†	+ 0.61	0.28
-do- Pacific Rim	217.49	217.49†	+ 0.96	0.97
-do- Cont Europe	197.60	197.60†	- 3.36	1.48
Index Strat USA	210.71	210.71†	+ 1.03	1.34
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	126.81	137.11	+ 1.92	
Med Term Bal	114.54	121.85	- 0.11	
Long Term Bal	129.50	137.77	- 1.59	
UK Equity	149.86	159.43	- 2.28	
UK Emerging Cos	91.69	97.54	+ 2.47	
American	165.31	175.86	+ 0.71	
Japan	48.76	51.87	+ 0.39	
European	157.15	167.17	+ 0.40	
Fixed Interest	95.81	101.92	+ 0.07	
Index Linked Gilt	86.85	92.39	- 0.15	
Deposit	87.32	95.02	+ 0.07	
Broker Unit Trusts				
EMN Intl	161.56	170.05	- 0.56	0.50
Brcktll Gth Port Inc	76.65	80.50	- 0.38	0.50
-do- Inc Port Inc	68.03	71.80†	- 0.17	3.50
-do- Wrwide Port	60.18	63.51	- 0.54	0.10
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stg & Intl Inc	707.58	752.74†	- 4.74	0.60
-do- Accum	803.17	854.44	- 5.38	0.60
European Inc	188.42	200.06†	+ 0.06	1.02
Amalgam Inc	167.60	177.75		
N America Inc	443.34	471.64	- 2.80	
Far East Inc	357.63	380.61	- 1.02	0.17
-do- Accum	371.38	395.10	- 1.06	0.17
UK Dvnd Inc	230.57	245.29†	- 0.90	1.81
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	123.540	131.840	- 2.40	
Do NAV to Mar 21	128.32	128.32		
UK Equity Safeguard	97.57	104.25	- 0.10	
Do NAV to Mar 21	91.96	91.96		
Cash	9.5171	9.5647†		5.25
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	304.60	324.10	- 0.10	
British Growth	76.62	81.95	+ 3.70	2.56
UK Small Cos	75.39	80.52	+ 0.19	3.92
FTSE 250 Index	95.34	101.96	- 0.10	2.12
Geared UK Index	17.6514	18.8457	- 0.07	4.75
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	102.67	109.80	- 0.60	4.09
Corp Bd	78.29	80.87	+ 2.04	
Monthly Inc	41.47	44.26†	- 0.70	5.65
International Funds				
American Gen	250.30	264.80	- 0.60	
American Strat	265.10	281.37	- 1.90	
US UG Index	19.9628	21.0401	- 0.32	3.75
European Gen	282.80	298.40	- 1.72	
European Strat	130.68	139.76	- 0.40	
Japan Gen	128.50	136.00	- 0.20	
Japan Strat	47.93	50.65†	- 0.35	
Asia Pacific	103.27	110.45	+ 0.15	
Pacific Strat	163.70	175.07†	+ 0.80	
Greater China	227.21	242.99	- 1.70	
Latin America	105.96	113.32	+ 0.27	
Intl Growth	171.65	183.58	- 0.40	
Balanced Exempt	139.50	144.60		
For Granville see Guinness Flight				
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 9968				
European	621.60	664.60	+ 1.10	5.01
Gilt & Fixed	136.60	144.90	+ 0.20	5.27
Growth Equity	479.00	511.70	- 0.80	1.15
Income Trust	162.90	174.20	+ 0.10	3.85
International	211.63	225.30		
Japan Trust	96.00	102.50†	- 0.60	
Nth American	392.90	408.10	- 0.75	
Pacific	594.80	635.40	+ 0.60	0.17
[illegible]	699.30	747.70	+ 1.70	1.30
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	103.10	106.95	0.07	4.91
Global High Inc	97.93	101.69†	+ 0.31	5.56
Corporate Bond	108.62	112.75	+ 0.21	6.46
Eqty & Bond Inc	117.72	125.16	- 0.09	4.37
European Growth	138.11	147.42	- 0.12	
Intl PEP Trust	74.63	77.71	+ 0.53	
Equity Inc	145.05	154.37†	+ 1.04	3.54
-do- Accum	217.05	230.78	+ 1.53	3.54
Recovery	435.70	463.21	- 0.30	2.55
-do- Accum	520.30	553.80	- 1.00	2.16
[illegible] High Inc	140.60	142.79	+ 1.30	1.54
UK Emerg Cos	329.10	345.00	+ 0.20	2.61
UK Smlr Cos	450.10	478.50†	+ 0.40	2.65
[illegible]	132.36	140.73	- 0.12	1.39
-do- Accum	137.61	146.30	- 0.14	1.38
Inc Share Tst	98.83	102.95	+ 0.17	8.43
Small Cos	107.11	114.74†	+ 1.16	1.58
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Balanced Inc	59.65	63.38†	- 0.04	3.29
Balanced Acc	62.96	66.76	- 0.04	3.29
Growth	35.73	37.88†	- 0.02	1.81
Growth Acc	35.21	39.45	- 0.01	1.81
Income	34.05	36.70	- 0.05	4.35
Income Acc	36.70	38.31	- 0.05	4.35
Dealing 01904 611110				
[illegible]	29.24	30.66	- 0.03	2.35
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
[illegible]	102.20	105.60†	+ 0.20	5.41
[illegible]	259.90	271.50	- 0.50	2.34
HENDERSON INVESTORS Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 454648				
Cat Funds				
UK Enterprise	197.48	[illegible]	- 0.41	6.43
Best of British	77.03	[illegible]	- 0.15	1.90
UK Smaller Cos	169.75	[illegible]	- 0.30	[illegible]
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	330.43	351.81	- 0.52	3.22
-do- Accum #	344.64	[illegible]	- 1.57	3.22
High Income	359.54	384.45	- 0.71	[illegible]
Extra Income #	314.97	338.30	+ 0.27	5.56
[illegible]	56.77	[illegible]	+ 0.04	2.10
International				
Ethical	129.70	138.66†	- 0.39	1.53
International	327.37	349.85	+ 2.47	
Global Bond	55.00	57.38	+ 0.02	[illegible]
[illegible]	102.09	109.18	- 0.52	3.40
Global Tech	240.64	258.24	+ 0.73	
Overseas Funds				
[illegible] Enterprise	204.49	218.60	+ 1.47	0.07
European	665.07	[illegible]	+ 4.23	[illegible]
European Income #	130.92	136.36†	- 0.03	2.92
Euro Smlr Cos	211.89	225.58	+ 0.75	[illegible]
European Value	103.28	110.11	+ 0.40	
-do- Accum	[illegible]	118.48	+ 0.42	
Japan Trst	163.34	[illegible]	+ 0.91	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smlr Cos	161.38	171.53	- 0.49	
Pacific Smlr Cos	233.09	248.20	- 0.33	
North American	345.21	366.03†	+ 0.94	
American Smaller	178.02	187.86	- 0.77	
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	165.80	174.60†	- 0.70	5.21
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	132.60	139.85	- 0.12	1.54
Capital	214.73	224.25†	+ 0.36	1.26
Dollar	551.38	577.32	+ 0.82	
Enterprise Gth	450.33	473.54	- 0.67	0.77
Europe	299.23	313.38	+ 2.90	0.08
Far East	329.62	335.27	+ 0.53	0.11
Financial	612.00	612.57	+ 2.86	1.38
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.02	28.75†	+ 0.03	6.55
High Yield #	118.93	124.53	+ 0.36	4.60
Income & Growth #	175.29	183.56	- 2.31	3.79
International	297.42	311.54	+ 2.82	3.31
Japanese General	158.96	168.48	+ 1.35	
Japan Tech	73.86	77.34†	+ 1.30	
Intl Resources	79.43	83.17	- 0.15	0.54
Portfolio	88.47	92.97	- 0.01	1.17
Special Sits	233.11	244.10	- 3.91	
UK Emerging Cos	141.64	148.32	- 3.03	0.62
US Smaller Cos	160.90	168.48	- 1.54	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	687.30	735.50†	- 2.50	5.32
UK Growth	760.50	811.60	+ 1.00	1.35
High Income #	124.26	132.50†	+ 0.10	5.54
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	671.60	711.00	+ 5.00	0.24
European Gwth	156.50	168.30†	+ 0.13	0.14
Japan Gwth	218.33	232.10	+ 2.30	
Japan Smllr Cos	25.51	27.22	- 3.07	
Asian	65.69	70.11†	+ 0.36	0.09
Sing & Malay Gwth	96.37	102.52	+ 1.65	
Hong Kong Gwth	180.90	192.90	- 0.90	3.91
Global Bond	20.93	22.27†		4.98
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	180.50	181.80†	- 0.13	3.26
Table Index	138.00	141.47	- 0.20	2.00
THE FOOTSIE FUND	70.94	71.30		2.72
Index Funds-International				
American Index	316.20	317.80†	+ 2.20	0.34
Eurotrack 100	210.60	211.70†	+ 0.50	1.39
Japan Index	57.66	57.95†	- 0.65	0.11
Tiger Index	132.13	158.25	- 5.30	0.14
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	53.58	55.98†	- 1.16	1.13
General Funds				
Managed Dist	94.29	98.48	+ 0.05	1.11
Managed	97.21	101.50		1.11
Rupert Child Fnd	172.40	181.10	- 3.60	1.75
UK Growth	77.45	80.30	- 0.31	1.43
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	94.28	98.46†	- 0.12	5.13
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.76	28.65†	- 0.06	7.58
UK Inc & Gwth	52.75	55.07	- 0.13	2.62
UK Income #	408.90	427.30	- 0.90	3.86
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	67.62	70.17	- 0.06	
Amer Smlr Cos	167.40	174.80	- 2.50	
-do- Accum	169.20	176.70	- 2.20	
Europe Gth	265.70	277.40	+ 1.30	
-do- Accum	278.30	287.30	+ 1.30	
Euro Smaller Cos	49.42	51.42	+ 0.07	
French Growth	106.10	110.20†	- 0.10	0.17
-do- Accum	114.90	119.20†	- 0.20	0.17
H Kong & China	117.00	121.60†	+ 0.30	0.53
Intl Growth	70.40	73.25	+ 0.23	0.36
-do- Accum	71.75	74.63	+ 0.22	0.36
Japan Gth	23.61	24.53	+ 0.23	
-do- Accum	23.61	24.53	+ 0.23	
Japan Smaller Cos	23.49	23.57	+ 0.14	
Glob Emg Mkts	101.30	105.85	+ 0.30	
-do- Accum	102.08	106.50	+ 0.22	0.11
SE Asia	365.30	381.50	+ 1.90	
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	51.11	52.69	- 0.16	6.10
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
Sector Value Inc #	113.29	118.40		3.45
Sector Value Gwth	123.90	129.50	- 0.10	1.76
Hy 5 Europe	108.06	112.96	- 0.70	1.95
Slater Gwth	209.00	222.90	- 1.30	0.90
New Japan	80.53	84.52	- 0.01	
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
World Health	222.60	236.50†	- 2.30	
Income #	239.02	253.21†	+ 0.82	4.33
UK Growth	93.85	99.84†	+ 0.25	1.80
Intl Growth	90.67	96.39†	+ 0.51	0.45
Ecology	112.43	119.60	+ 0.23	0.87
European	226.60	241.37†	+ 1.81	0.56
Far Eastern	303.60	323.20†	+ 7.50	
UK Special Sits	59.54	63.50	+ 0.27	
Fd of Inv Tsts	55.45	59.14	+ 0.10	
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	124.30	132.22	+ 0.20	6.73
Euro Pro Inc	108.63	115.71	+ 0.20	2.75
-do- Accum	108.30	115.71	- 0.29	2.75
Gilt Yield	122.90	129.50	- 0.27	6.24
Global Income	240.13	255.47	- 0.70	3.12
High Yield	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	5.14
-do- Accum	589.30	626.90†	- 1.10	5.14
Money Market	[illegible]	98.74	- 0.07	5.45
Small Cos Div	65.98	70.09†		1.93
Tomorrows Co [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.01	
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Gwth Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.10	
Asian Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 3.60	
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 4.30	
North Amer [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.28	
European Special	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	1.11
European	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	0.48
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.50	0.48
Global Eqty Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.40	2.99
Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 4.30	
Japanese Special	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.40	
Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.10	3.99
UK Equity Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.02	1.15
UK Index Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.39	3.82
Eastern Tst	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.50	1.11
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.80	[illegible]
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.29	4.01
[illegible] Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]		1.35
Inc & Growth Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.22	3.60
Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.31	1.12
Ever Gen Cos Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.35	2.16
Ever Gen Cos Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.02	2.16
Ever Recovery Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	2.04
Ever Recovery Acc	67.53	71.84	- 0.41	2.04
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01277 690 422				
UK Cap	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	2.33
UK Inc Gth #	529.30	561.00†	+ 0.10	4.10
UK Income #	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.70	4.49
UK Sm Cos	[illegible]	358.40	+ 0.70	1.48
Euro Gwth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.50	0.75
N Amer Gwth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	
Japan Growth	46.73	49.94	+ 0.35	
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MGRS LTD Enquiries 01277 227 300 Dealing 01277 690 385				
Equity Dist	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	2.53
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.00	2.54
Equity Income #	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	4.83
UK Tactical Alloc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.18	4.02
European	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.50	0.83
Far Eastern	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	
Fixed Interest	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.12	6.74
Gilt	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.01	6.09
Global Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.51	0.17
Intl Bond	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.04	5.39
Japanese	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.47	
North American	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.30	0.55
Pacific Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.60	0.11
UK Index	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.25	3.01
UK Recovery	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.23	1.94
UK Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.20	1.15
US Index	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.60	1.32
European Index	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.36	1.24
Japan Index	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.01	
Worldwide	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.20	1.40
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS [illegible]				
Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 3.10	2.61
Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.18	4.14
Far East	48.54	51.51	- 0.51	3.09
North American	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.40	0.43
European	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.32	0.94
Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 3.84	
[illegible]	57.15	60.46	- 0.05	5.17
SE Asia	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.29	0.47
UK Cap Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	2.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	1.53
Managed	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.75	1.33
Cash	50.17	50.17		4.69
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: [illegible] Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.60	2.19
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.02	2.19
[illegible]	[illegible]	79.86	- 0.19	0.03
-do- Accum	[illegible]	39.04	- 2.27	0.03
Extra Inc	133.80	142.21	- 3.00	3.49
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.50	3.49
FTSE 100 Inc	132.50	141.60	+ 0.10	2.38
FTSE 100 Acc	139.20	147.90	+ 0.20	2.38
German Gth	143.50	153.20	- 0.50	
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 3.70	
Growth Port	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	0.01
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.80	0.01
High Interest Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	7.16
High Interest Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.40	7.16
Inc Reserve Inc #	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.28	5.78
-do- Reserve Acc #	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.20	5.78
Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.50	2.74
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.00	2.74
Income Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	3.96
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.30	3.96
Japan Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.21	



ELIZABETH GAGE
Goldsmith

REMEMBER ST. VALENTINE'S DAY
18ct gold Cupid Earrings with drop pearls

20 ALBEMARLE STREET, LONDON W1X 4LB
Telephone 0171 499 2879 Facsimile 0171 495 4550

Design © Elizabeth Gage

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	81.07	86.25	- 0.30	
Master Trust	71.51	76.08	- 0.03	1.28
-do- Accum	82.57	87.85	- 0.03	1.28
Millennium Acc	101.90	108.52		2.17
N American Gen	269.70	287.00	+ 1.10	
-do- Accum	312.20	332.20	+ 1.30	
NAm Sm Co Rec	190.60	202.80	- 2.10	
-do- Accum	194.60	207.10	- 2.10	
Pacific Basin	263.60	280.50†	+ 0.30	0.17
-do- Accum	281.30	299.30	+ 0.30	0.17
Safety First Acc	97.75	102.90	- 0.10	1.96
Cs until 12/1/98 ‡	96.25			
Small Cos Rec	566.70	596.60	- 0.30	1.53
-do- Accum	782.80	824.10	0.40	1.53
UK Eq Gth	181.50	193.10	+ 1.20	2.25
UK Eq Inc	139.60	148.60	- 0.20	3.45
UK Growth	113.70	121.00†	- 1.20	1.61
-do- Accum	143.80	153.00	- 1.50	1.61
Worldwide Gth	361.60	384.90	+ 0.30	0.29
-do- Accum	535.20	569.40	+ 0.40	0.29
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	94.48	101.11	+ 0.41	0.60
General	115.47	123.89	- 0.05	2.70
Income	79.35	85.13	+ 0.06	5.50
International	74.74	80.19	+ 0.19	0.50
Japan	43.67	46.85	- 0.23	
Tst of Inv Tsts	79.84	85.66	+ 0.34	1.00
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	564.30	596.00†	+ 6.30	0.34
-do- Accum	707.10	746.80†	+ 7.80	0.34
Amer Recovery	641.20	678.10	+ 3.10	0.08
-do- Accum	741.60	784.20	+ 3.60	0.08
Amer Smlr Cos	164.80	174.30†	- 0.30	
-do- Accum	168.40	178.00†	- 0.40	
Australasian	220.40	233.10	+ 3.80	1.74
-do- Accum	276.80	292.80	+ 4.70	1.74
Capital	1025.10	1084.00†	- 2.70	2.78
-do- Accum	1236.20	1307.00†	- 3.20	2.78
Charifund	804.60	843.00†	+ 0.40	5.46
-do- Accum	4385.30	4439.30†	+ 2.10	5.46
Commodity	478.90	506.40†	+ 2.00	0.22
-do- Accum	708.10	748.80†	+ 3.00	0.22
Compound Gth	1190.50	1259.00	- 1.90	2.56
-do- Accum	1315.10	1390.80	- 2.20	2.56
Corporate Bond	27.03	27.13†	+ 0.05	7.18
Dividend	46.40	49.10		4.71
-do- Accum	210.50	223.00		4.71
Equity Income	350.40	370.60†	+ 0.40	5.37
-do- Accum	496.50	525.30†	+ 0.60	5.37
Euro & General	673.50	712.20†	+ 4.00	0.52
-do- Accum	865.00	914.60†	+ 5.00	0.52
Euro Dividend	86.70	91.70†	+ 0.20	3.60
-do- Accum	111.20	117.60†	+ 0.20	3.60
Euro Smlr Cos	55.50	58.70	+ 0.30	0.50
-do- Accum	55.50	58.70	+ 0.30	0.50
Extra Yield	503.40	532.30	+ 0.10	4.79
-do- Accum	1702.50	1800.40	+ 0.40	4.79
Fund of Inv Tsts	763.40	807.30	+ 1.00	1.73
-do- Accum	1474.70	1559.60	+ 2.00	1.73
General	73.30	77.50†	- 0.20	3.77
-do- Accum	219.80	232.70†	- 0.60	3.77
Gilt Income	64.15	64.25†	- 0.07	6.50
-do- Accum	200.81	200.31†	- 0.22	6.50
Gold	69.30	73.30†	+ 0.40	0.69
-do- Accum	83.10	88.00†	+ 0.50	0.69
High Income	35.30	37.30		4.51
-do- Accum	153.50	162.30	- 0.20	4.51
Intl Growth	92.20	97.50†	+ 0.80	0.63
-do- Accum	163.30	172.70†	+ 1.40	0.63
International Inc	116.50	123.20	+ 0.80	4.29
-do- Accum	186.90	197.70	+ 1.30	4.29
Japan & Gen	30.20	31.90	+ 0.30	
-do- Accum	32.40	34.20	+ 0.30	
Japan Smlr Cos	108.70	115.00	+ 0.50	
-do- Accum	109.50	115.70	+ 0.40	
Managed Gwth	28.10	29.60†	+ 0.10	1.56
Managed Income	31.50	33.10†		3.99
Midland	64.30	68.00		3.02
-do- Accum	226.50	239.70		3.02
Pension Ex	1144.10	1172.80	- 2.60	4.04
Recovery	48.70	51.50†	- 0.30	2.92
-do- Accum	84.60	89.40†	- 0.50	2.92
Second General	78.50	83.00†	- 0.10	3.84
-do- Accum	217.10	229.70†	- 0.20	3.84
Smaller Cos	70.18	74.10†	+ 0.40	3.36
-do- Accum	147.20	155.80†	+ 0.80	3.36
Sth East Asia	425.60	450.30	+ 6.10	1.04
-do- Accum	570.30	603.20	+ 8.20	1.04
Treasury	25.15	25.20†	+ 0.01	5.97
Trustee	46.20	48.90	- 0.10	5.02
-do- Accum	202.00	213.60	- 0.50	5.02
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	107.36	114.21	- 0.25	0.59
Intl Bond	63.19	66.38	- 0.30	4.77
Intl Equity Growth	87.08	92.54	+ 0.52	0.68
N Amer Growth	149.80	159.22	- 0.14	0.77
Special Sits Growth	30.24	32.17	- 0.01	1.96
UK Growth	496.35	528.03	- 0.07	2.46
-do- Accum	685.41	729.15	- 0.12	2.46
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1477.60	1591.80		2.80
Income #	1061.10	1077.30†		4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0191 222 4242				
Maldon General	176.20	179.50†		3.45
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 0800 363432				
M & S Inv Ptfolio	185.90	192.70†	+ 0.30	2.38
-do- Accum	224.00	230.90†	+ 0.40	2.38
UK Sel Ptfolio	167.80	173.00	- 0.30	2.39
-do- Accum	204.40	210.70	- 0.20	2.39
UK 100 Cos	127.00	127.30	- 0.10	2.61
-do- Accum	129.40	129.40	- 0.10	2.61
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	74.76	79.52		3.35
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4849				
Intl Income	90.39	95.96	+ 0.19	2.90
European	171.30	178.20†	- 1.06	0.80
Income #	90.28	95.84†	- 0.22	4.94
Nth American	105.10	111.60	+ 0.90	0.14
Far East	185.60	197.00	+ 1.70	0.20
Japan	52.46	55.69	+ 0.30	
Emerging Mkts	96.08	102.00†	+ 0.10	
Intl Growth	138.00	146.50	+ 0.50	0.40
UK Growth	133.80	142.00	+ 0.50	3.17
UK Smlr Co	67.74	71.91	+ 0.07	1.01
Asia Pacific	40.50	43.32	+ 0.26	0.37
Glob Gwth PEP	67.27	71.46	+ 0.11	0.36
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	104.50	111.20	- 0.13	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	497.81	529.59	- 0.32	4.29
Global Inc	79.11	84.16	+ 0.03	4.15
Bal Leaders	405.71	432.67	- 0.38	3.51
Intl Leaders	241.70	257.13	- 0.87	1.40
PAM [illegible]	72.62	75.66	- 0.26	0.44
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	297.70	314.00	- 0.30	
-do- Accum	378.30	399.70	- 0.50	
American Opps	130.50	138.20	- 1.10	
-do- Accum	132.10	140.90	- 1.20	
British Blue Chip	104.00	110.40	- 0.10	2.18
-do- Accum	134.90	143.20	- 0.20	2.18
Cash	180.40	180.40†	+ 0.100	5.62
-do- Accum	150.60	150.60†		5.62
Emerging Mkts	141.50	152.20	- 0.50	0.09
-do- Accum	143.30	154.10	- 0.50	0.09
European Growth	330.10	370.40	- 0.40	0.12
-do- Accum	381.70	403.80	0.50	0.12
European Income	95.77	132.50†		2.80
-do- Accum	140.60	148.60†	- 0.20	2.80
General	653.20	694.00	- 0.10	1.79
-do- Accum	1336.00	1420.00	- 1.00	1.79
Global Bond	132.00	138.70	- 0.20	5.06
-do- Accum	175.40	184.20	- 0.30	5.06
Gold & General	195.90	209.30	- 7.30	0.43
-do- Accum	202.90	216.60	- 3.00	0.43
Govt Securities	47.42	100.40	+ 0.100	5.77
-do- Accum	209.20	215.60	+ 0.300	5.77
High Yield Bd	108.00	108.50	+ 0.300	6.65
-do- Accum	114.20	115.90	+ 0.400	6.65
Income	201.30	213.80†	- 0.10	4.21
-do- Accum	341.90	362.50†	- 0.20	4.21
Inc Portfolio #	118.20	125.10†		4.98
-do- Accum #	130.90	132.60†		4.98
Intl Opps	568.90	604.60	- 1.30	0.15
-do- Accum	767.30	817.10	- 1.30	0.15
Japan	138.80	147.90†	+ 0.300	
-do- Accum	142.50	151.80†	+ 0.900	
New Europe	232.90	259.80†	- 1.20	0.75
-do- Accum	265.10	283.10†	- 1.20	0.75
Pacific	117.20	124.90	+ 0.200	0.82
-do- Accum	126.50	134.60	+ 0.200	0.82
Recovery	507.40	541.20	- 0.60	0.48
-do- Accum	670.60	714.40	- 0.70	0.48
UK Smaller Cos	69.70	74.35	+ 0.040	0.87
-do- Accum	80.48	85.65	+ 0.050	0.89
Portfolio	[illegible]	105.10		2.30
-do- Accum	122.00	129.30		2.30
Managed Gwth	126.62	132.90	- 0.10	0.97
Managed Inc	125.50	129.70	- 0.10	2.89
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 225				
[illegible]	168.52	176.94		0.13
Portfolio	87.85	92.27	- 0.27	1.33
UK Income Inc	79.65	[illegible]	+ 0.10	4.46
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: [illegible]				
Balanced	72.12	75.52	+ 0.08	2.51
-do- Accum	82.62	83.79	+ 0.07	2.51
British Tst	114.70	119.92	- 0.10	2.20
-do- Accum	138.70	143.30	- 0.10	2.20
Corp Bond Inc	102.10	105.30	+ 0.29	6.47
-do- Accum	107.40	111.20	+ 0.30	6.47
Extra High Inc	74.53	79.04	+ 0.01	6.57
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]		6.57
FTSE 100 Acc	75.37	78.54†	- 0.02	2.32
FTSE 100 Dst	70.79	74.13	- 0.01	2.32
Gilt & Fxd Int	57.64	59.37	+ 0.09	6.25
-do- Accum	186.00	193.50	+ 0.30	6.25
High Yield	351.90	365.40	- 0.10	5.33
-do- Accum	709.60	742.00	- 0.40	5.33
Income	340.00	354.80	- 0.50	3.78
-do- Accum	819.10	857.70	- 1.30	3.78
Money Market UT	49.28	49.29		5.23
-do- Accum	94.37	94.38		5.23
Monthly Income	101.92	105.30†	- 0.10	4.85

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	143.70	152.90	+ 0.10	1.28
European Growth	146.70	155.50	+ 1.50	0.01
Gilt & Fixed	104.80	111.10	+ 0.10	4.99
Income	112.90	120.10	- 0.10	2.13
Japan Growth	37.63	39.89	- 0.06	
Managed	88.07	93.69	+ 0.10	1.88
Money Market	92.32	103.20		3.89
North American	119.50	126.70	- 1.20	0.35
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	130.30	138.60		1.27
European Growth	137.70	145.90	+ 1.30	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	98.63	104.60	+ 0.20	5.03
Income	110.60	117.70	- 0.10	2.18
Japan Growth	37.55	39.81	- 0.06	
Managed	83.56	88.91	- 0.49	1.87
Money Market	89.69	95.07		3.87
North American	107.50	114.60	- 1.00	0.43
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	129.10	137.30		1.28
European Growth	134.80	142.90	+ 1.40	
Gilt & Fixed Int	88.32	93.67	+ 0.15	5.27
Income	107.70	114.60	- 0.10	2.24
Japan Growth	38.38	40.68	- 0.07	
Managed	86.56	92.08	+ 0.10	1.88
Money Market	81.23	86.10		4.04
North American	120.60	127.80	- 1.10	0.33
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	499.60	530.90†	+ 1.30	
European Gth Inc	623.40	663.40	+ 7.10	
-do- Accum	630.20	670.60	+ 7.20	
Intl Gwth	239.00	253.10	+ 1.00	
UK Equity Inc	240.30	255.30	- 0.30	4.04
Do. Accum	337.90	348.40	- 0.40	4.04
UK Ind Trckr Inc	207.40	221.30†		2.93
-do- Accum	253.70	275.90†		2.93
US Ind Trk Inc	306.10	326.10	+ 2.40	0.72
Japan Tracker	54.26	57.21	+ 0.63	
Asian Tracker	237.70	256.00	+ 2.40	0.15
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	198.50	211.50	+ 0.40	1.88
Mngd Ptfolio Acc	217.80	232.10	+ 0.50	1.88
Deposit Inc	99.67	99.67†	+ 0.02	5.56
Europa	275.30	293.90†	- 0.80	
Genesis	234.30	252.60		2.23
High Income	20.88	22.05†	- 0.01	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 080 933				
American	115.70	118.30	+ 0.20	1.68
American Inc	104.90	107.20	+ 0.20	1.88
American Reserve	100.40	101.40†	+ 0.30	6.66
-do- Inc	78.92	77.09†	+ 0.17	6.66
Americas Growth	75.04	76.93†	- 0.05	
Equity Income #	113.40	116.30	+ 0.30	4.09
European	87.71	89.24	- 0.36	0.17
Smaller Cos	101.60	105.20		1.14
W'wide Eqty	80.27	81.69†	+ 0.10	
Global Bond	41.79	42.24†	- 0.15	5.23
UK Growth	124.30	127.70	+ 0.20	1.27
Pacific Growth	129.70	133.90	+ 1.18	0.19
Japan Growth	83.11	84.19	+ 1.22	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	159.74	169.94	- 0.26	2.40
NSP UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 0161 839 8282				
UK Growth	96.53	102.06†	- 0.49	2.35
UK Income	136.40	145.10	- 0.30	4.10
Higher Income	262.30	279.00†	- 0.80	6.39
Smaller Cos	114.10	121.30		1.45
International	116.50	123.90	- 1.10	1.36
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	137.60	146.80	+ 0.20	0.18
European Dist	161.40	169.90	+ 0.10	0.32
Far East Dist	180.40	189.90†	+ 0.90	
Global Care Dist	91.86	98.63	+ 0.27	0.32
Ozeas Dist	1160.60	1221.70	+ 8.20	0.32
-do- Accum	1508.40	1587.80	+ 10.60	0.32
UK Dist	462.50	488.80	- 0.30	2.04
-do- Accum	943.40	999.40	- 0.50	2.04
UK Extra Inc Dist	100.90	106.20†	- 0.10	3.63
Wrwde Dist	120.80	127.20	+ 0.90	0.13
Wrlde Inc Dist	90.97	95.76	+ 0.22	1.63
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 380				
Europe Inc	86.35	91.13	+ 0.06	0.66
Fund of Funds Inc	72.73	76.76†	+ 0.09	1.69
North America Inc	73.01	77.06	+ 0.15	0.32
UK Equity Gth Inc	73.99	79.09	- 0.45	2.59
-do- Accum	80.41	84.87	- 0.48	2.59
UK General Inc	72.17	76.17	+ 0.01	2.66
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.59	51.37†	- 0.02	5.45
UK Income Inc	70.38	74.28†	- 0.06	4.11
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	57.82	61.51	- 0.03	
-do- Accum	58.27	61.98	- 0.04	
Bond	129.49	137.39	+ 0.02	5.06
Cash Income	50.62	50.62	+ 0.01	5.30
-do- Accum	70.15	70.15	+ 0.01	5.30
Distributor	110.91	117.98	- 0.15	2.80
European	61.30	65.29	+ 0.10	
Foundation	116.41	123.84	- 0.18	2.47
General Inc	239.13	254.39†	+ 4.05	1.80
General Acc	242.58	258.06†	+ 4.12	1.60
Global	422.32	443.27	+ 2.30	
Growth Inc	152.36	162.08	- 0.17	2.05
Growth Acc	156.32	166.29	- 0.18	2.05
Higher Income Inc	35.21	37.45	+ 0.03	4.24
-do- Accum	42.90	45.63	+ 0.04	4.23
Income	287.84	306.21†	- 0.16	3.25
Intrepid	155.97	162.46		1.63
Intl Gwth	41.00	43.61	+ 0.13	
Japan	23.53	25.03	+ 0.38	
Oriental Inc	154.58	164.44	+ 1.34	0.35
-do- Accum	160.11	170.32	+ 1.38	0.35
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2585				
High Income #	51.51	54.51†	+ 0.17	5.89
UK Growth	123.20	130.40†	+ 1.20	2.49
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	149.17	157.02	+ 0.28	0.93
UK Equity	184.01	193.70	- 0.24	2.81
UK Equity Income	165.59	174.30		3.07
UK Smaller Cos	155.59	163.78†	+ 0.35	1.19
UK Equity Growth	165.37	174.07	+ 0.22	0.95
UK Index Trckg	183.32	193.48	- 0.09	2.48
Intl Index Trckg	174.57	184.24	+ 1.21	0.78
International	285.52	300.55	+ 1.71	0.69
European	269.09	283.25†	+ 0.66	0.08
Pan European	178.56	187.95	- 0.07	1.11
Nth American	264.13	278.03	+ 2.31	0.45
N Amer Smlr Cos	265.76	270.77†	+ 0.48	
Japanese	75.08	79.03	+ 0.90	
Pacific	233.22	245.50	+ 1.47	0.45
South East Asian	290.04	305.30	+ 1.01	0.41
Intl Bond	127.26	133.98†	- 0.13	4.14
Gilt & Convertible	112.82	118.86†	+ 0.07	5.66
Property	86.10	90.63	+ 0.02	5.76
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	392.80	420.80		
-do- Accum	417.20	446.80	- 0.28	
Japan Inc	85.44	98.41	+ 1.04	
Nth American Inc	166.10	178.80	+ 1.47	0.40
Worldwide Inc	191.50	204.90	+ 2.00	0.59
Hong Kong Inc	197.80	211.10	+ 1.20	0.62
Swiss Equities Inc	88.73	94.70	+ 0.76	
Wrlde Bond Inc	68.03	77.89	+ 0.05	4.81
Emrgng Asia Inc	197.80	214.50	+ 2.40	
-do- Accum	199.60	215.30	+ 2.50	
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.87	50.87†	+ 0.01	5.18
Thailand Inc	88.11	95.46	- 1.35	1.98
New Zealand Inc	99.86	107.20	+ 0.40	2.10
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	76.35	81.82	+ 0.46	0.78
Latin Am Cap Inc	73.84	78.95†	+ 0.52	0.41
UK All Sh Mkt Inc	76.90	78.17	- 0.03	2.27
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustee	84.66	91.12	- 0.56	
Global Portfolio	75.52	80.17	- 0.41	
Global Opps	66.83	71.95	- 0.39	
[illegible] Global Gth	67.81	71.91	+ 0.11	
AMB Brit Gwth Inc	116.90	124.30	- 0.10	1.22
Temple Equity Inc	57.67	56.06†	+ 0.16	4.06
Hadley Growth	124.70	132.70	+ 0.10	0.23
Intl Growth Inc	85.82	91.79	- 0.38	0.21
IPS Portfolio Inc	95.46	102.10†	- 0.40	
Premier Portfolio Inc	70.54	75.44†	- 0.07	1.37
Roxburgh Strat Gth	80.23	85.81	- 0.07	0.08
International Strat	85.12	90.55	- 0.54	
OFC Growth	65.35	69.94	- 0.12	
Chartfield Port of Fds	56.59	61.21	- 0.21	
Lowes Intl Growth	49.75	53.37	+ 0.02	1.49
PM UT MGRS LTD 0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	260.80	277.40	+ 1.40	1.39
European Gth	141.70	150.00	- 1.30	0.44
Income & Gth #	172.30	183.30	- 0.30	2.89
Japan Gth	85.67	91.14	+ 0.50	
Nth Amer Gth	238.40	253.50	+ 0.80	
Overseas Gth	127.00	135.00		
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	299.70	318.80	- 0.10	1.90
-do- Accum	663.10	705.40	- 0.20	1.90
Growth	196.20	208.50		2.23
Income	290.50	309.00	+ 0.20	3.41
Intl Equity	289.10	307.50	- 0.30	0.42
-do- Accum	323.80	344.40	- 0.20	0.42
UK Income #	79.84	84.72†	+ 0.04	4.78
UK Intl 25	100.70	107.10		1.50
New Europe	110.70	117.70	- 0.70	
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	731.21	780.96	+ 5.74	0.64
-do- Accum	735.75	785.81	+ 5.78	0.64
Income	498.99	532.89	- 0.24	2.78
Wrwide Recovery	479.98	513.35	+ 3.54	0.45
Asian Growth Inc	324.07	344.96†	- 3.42	0.01
-do- Accum	324.07	344.96	+ 3.42	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	291.10	317.76	+ 2.08	0.15
Far Eastn Gwth Inc	305.94	327.21	+ 2.28	0.87
-do- Accum	309.75	331.29	+ 2.30	0.87
Euro Gwth Inc	204.98	218.56	+ 1.19	0.33
-do- Accum	205.64	219.32	+ 1.18	0.33
UK Growth Inc	127.63	136.47	- 0.19	2.44
-do- Accum	137.07	146.56	- 0.21	2.44
High Income	126.68	135.46†	- 0.08	3.39
Jap Gwth Inc	153.46	164.13	+ 0.97	0.27
-do- Accum	153.46	164.13	+ 0.97	0.27
PEP Bond	57.95	60.56	+ 0.17	7.53
PEP Growth	154.77	165.38	+ 1.11	0.85
Asian Sml Mkts Inc	143.68	153.68†	+ 1.49	0.06
-do- Accum	144.15	154.22	+ 1.49	0.06
Amer Smlr Co Inc	205.75	219.91	+ 0.86	0.01
-do- Accum	205.75	219.91	+ 0.86	0.01
Global Bond	56.11	59.13	+ 0.13	5.20
UK Smaller Cos Inc	119.25	127.55	+ 0.79	1.40
-do- Accum	127.03	135.87	+ 0.84	1.40
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0191 281 3527				
American	143.08	152.22	- 1.55	
European	134.15	142.80†	- 1.18	
Global	72.99	77.65	- 0.40	
Pacific	57.21	60.86	- 0.33	
UK Inc & Gth	87.79	93.39	- 0.15	1.54
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Agst Acc	52.13	55.46	- 0.44	0.01
Emerg Mkts	50.80	53.76	+ 0.69	0.97
Fund of Funds Inc	207.72	219.81†	+ 0.11	0.54
Fund of Funds Acc	209.52	221.71	+ 0.12	0.54
High Income #	57.08	60.40†	- 0.07	5.38
Performance	51.31	54.58	+ 0.11	
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	191.20	204.08†	- 0.40	1.81
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	134.30	142.80†	+ 1.30	2.73
Comm & Gen	127.70	135.80	+ 1.00	4.55
European Income	91.55	97.29	+ 0.15	2.17
Extra Income	192.70	205.00†	- 0.50	4.47
-do- Accum	254.00	270.20	- 0.70	4.47
Far East	396.00	421.50	+ 2.70	
-do- Accum	406.40	432.30	+ 2.70	
Global Income	30.04	31.96†	+ 0.01	3.62
High Income	145.90	156.30	- 0.42	4.15
-do- Accum	188.30	200.30	- 0.60	4.15
International	222.20	236.30	+ 1.00	0.31
-do- Accum	231.40	246.30	+ 1.10	0.31
Pref & Fxd Int	46.91	49.73†	+ 0.01	8.88
Recovery	96.48	102.60		2.19

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	164.40	171.78	- 0.20	1.41
-do- Accum	180.00	191.50	- 0.20	1.41
Technology	698.30	742.90	- 2.60	
UK Blue Chip	95.75	101.90	- 0.10	2.88
-do- Accum	112.10	119.30	- 0.20	2.88
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dealing: 0345 535505 Client Enq: 0345 535500				
Managed Tst	47.29	49.00	+ 0.05	1.86
Cash Trust Inc	100.86	101.34†	+ 0.01	5.01
Cash Trust Acc	120.63	121.13	+ 0.02	5.01
Dist Trust Inc	111.75	115.80†	+ 0.16	5.32
Dist Trust Acc	128.51	133.17	+ 0.11	5.32
Global Growth	108.88	116.87†	+ 0.05	1.13
Equity Inc	96.32	102.47†	+ 0.03	4.26
Equity	955.80	1010.10	- 0.52	2.26
European	283.40	304.10	- 1.38	0.65
High Income	99.38	105.72	- 0.08	4.88
Intl Gth	227.84	242.38†	+ 0.61	0.93
Intl Sm Co	98.29	104.56	+ 0.08	0.45
Japanese	162.79	168.69	+ 1.18	
Mgd Income Tst #	49.33	54.02	+ 0.08	7.88
Nth Amer	263.75	273.28	+ 1.26	0.98
Pacific Mkts	117.93	122.21†	- 0.20	0.88
Premier Inc	49.09	51.10†	+ 0.04	6.52
Sm Cos	117.72	125.23	+ 0.14	1.81
Spec Sits	136.95	145.69†	- 0.12	2.37
UK Growth	160.43	170.67†	- 0.12	2.29
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	90.64	95.52	+ 0.16	3.51
Investment Trust	124.72	131.15	+ 0.45	0.57
UK Smaller Cos	121.22	127.47†	- 0.10	1.34
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	365.00	388.00	- 0.10	2.74
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	709.67	752.99	+ 3.05	
America (Acc)	831.55	882.28	+ 3.10	
Amer Smlr Cos	84.63	88.94	- 0.17	
Asia	56.35	60.44	+ 0.15	0.09
European	442.29	469.84	- 1.75	
Japan	180.41	191.87	+ 1.01	
Jap Smlr Cos	29.56	31.50	- 0.51	
Major UK Cos	130.49	139.06†	- 0.01	1.47
Smllr UK Cos	445.71	484.67	+ 1.28	0.85
UK Equity Inc #	201.26	215.08	+ 0.67	4.02
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	53.74	56.12	- 0.30	
Cash	49.29	50.28		2.84
Emerging Mkts	52.13	54.44	- 0.06	
Europe	66.84	69.80	- 0.65	
Global Fixed Int #	50.03	52.25	- 0.20	5.11
Japan	32.91	34.37	- 0.08	
North America	72.06	75.25	- 0.78	
UK	71.05	74.20	- 0.17	0.40
UK Equity Inc #	86.39	89.33	- 0.09	3.48
UK Fixed Int #	52.54	54.87	+ 0.06	6.99
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	53.71	55.65	- 0.25	
Pep Inc Port #	53.99	55.94	- 0.07	4.12
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	91.73	96.56	+ 0.02	
Gilt	107.47	113.12	- 0.05	
Managed	123.99	130.51	- 0.07	
Portfolio	52.79	55.56	- 0.22	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 686 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	131.70	140.00	+ 0.10	0.30
Pacific Basin	79.49	85.34	+ 0.52	0.30
High Inc Dist	176.50	188.40	- 0.08	3.76
Ryl Life Intl Cncy	66.86	70.39	+ 0.05	3.72
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	80.24	85.49	+ 0.04	0.09
Ryl Life Intl Spec	73.70	78.40	- 0.29	
UK Emerging Cos	153.90	166.30	+ 0.70	1.25
UK Index Trckg	215.60	229.10	- 0.20	3.48
European	184.60	197.70	- 2.40	0.17
Managed	193.30	207.60†	- 0.20	0.95
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 764 400				
American Growth	210.00	223.00†	- 0.20	1.10
European Growth	148.30	157.10†	- 2.00	1.79
Far East Growth	154.50	164.40†	- 1.80	0.76
Japan Growth	96.61	102.70	- 0.70	
Special Sits	283.20	301.20	- 0.50	1.63
UK Growth	113.50	120.70	- 0.42	2.58
Intl Growth	290.50	308.10	- 1.80	1.66
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	173.10	183.20	+ 1.00	0.50
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	474.80	502.50	- 0.60	0.21
-do- Accum	745.20	788.60	- 0.80	0.21
Growth Inc	162.50	172.00	+ 0.60	0.55
-do- Accum	167.10	176.80	+ 0.50	0.55
International Inc	426.90	451.70	+ 1.00	0.38
-do- Accum	590.70	625.10	+ 1.50	0.38
Nth Am & Intl Inc	428.40	453.30	+ 4.10	1.10
UK Gen Prog Inc	273.60	289.50	- 0.10	0.82
-do- Accum	317.00	335.50	- 0.10	0.82
UK High Inc Inc	160.88	170.20	- 0.10	4.20
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	135.04	143.65	- 0.28	0.75
European Gwth	101.19	107.64	- 0.21	1.08
Global Bd	60.77	64.16	- 0.22	5.08
Japan	43.25	46.01	+ 0.46	
UK Gwth	96.95	103.13	+ 0.31	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokers: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smlr Cos	154.10	163.90†	- 0.30	
Cash	137.10	137.20	+ 0.10	5.53
China Dragon	74.41	79.16	+ 0.20	1.12
Commodity	148.20	157.70	+ 0.50	
Emerging Mkts	40.68	43.28	+ 0.28	0.42
European Gwth	264.00	280.90	- 1.90	0.60
Euro Smllr Cos	77.29	82.22	- 0.50	
Extra Income #	80.92	86.13†	+ 0.16	5.74
Far Eastern	89.55	95.07	+ 0.30	
FE Sm Cos	41.53	44.18	+ 0.11	
Financial Secs	362.70	385.90	+ 1.60	1.00
Gold & Exploration	93.44	99.40†	- 0.60	
Growth	464.80	497.00†	+ 0.70	1.71
High Income	50.99	53.98†	+ 0.12	7.04
Intl Bond	160.30	169.40	- 0.60	6.03
ITU	252.40	268.50	+ 0.90	0.95
Japan Growth	128.90	137.10	- 0.20	
Japan Smaller	133.80	142.30	- 1.40	
Korea	40.03	42.58	- 0.37	
Latin America	45.50	48.40	+ 0.33	0.41
Masterfund	65.88	67.22	- 0.03	0.65
Premier Eq Gth	181.20	192.80	- 0.10	1.09
Premier Eq Inc #	396.80	421.90	+ 1.00	4.41
SE Asia	51.70	55.00	+ 0.23	1.02
Southern Africa	56.66	60.28	- 0.25	1.11
UK & O'seas	211.20	224.70	- 1.00	0.88
UK Eqty Gth	90.48	96.25	- 0.04	1.27
UK Eqty Inc #	279.60	297.30†	+ 0.60	4.59
UK Gth & Inc #	322.90	343.50†	+ 0.48	2.98
UK Sm Cos	64.07	68.10†	+ 0.13	1.01
US Growth	234.30	249.30	+ 1.20	
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Clnt: 0800 526 535 Bdr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	382.07	403.97	+ 6.27	0.51
-do- Accum	423.13	447.33	+ 6.94	0.51
European Gwth	96.46	102.27	+ 0.33	0.52
Euro Smllr Cos	120.00	127.41	+ 0.71	0.28
Far Eastern Gth	104.80	111.81†	+ 1.37	
-do- Accum	106.80	114.01†	+ 1.40	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	54.89	57.82	- 0.09	7.24
Global Bond #	47.28	49.84†	+ 0.12	6.48
-do- Accum #	57.02	59.74†	+ 0.15	6.48
Global Emer Mkts	58.69	62.60	+ 0.38	
-do- Accum	58.75	62.65	+ 0.37	
Income #	455.91	486.30	- 1.14	4.54
-do- Accum #	615.44	616.47	- 3.88	4.54
Japan Smllr Cos	303.06	323.26†	- 0.93	
-do- Accum	303.57	323.91†	- 0.93	
Japan Enterprise	49.51	52.81	+ 0.68	
Pacific Gth	169.01	180.27†	+ 2.33	0.32
-do- Accum	175.70	187.41†	+ 2.42	0.32
Portfolio	99.98	106.30†	+ 0.05	1.56
-do- Accum	111.90	119.20†	+ 0.06	1.56
Seoul	33.91	36.17	+ 0.01	
-do- Accum	33.91	36.17	+ 0.01	
Smaller Cos	370.42	395.11	+ 0.88	0.99
Strategic Inc	105.74	112.62†	- 0.08	2.79
Strategic Acc	107.52	114.51†	- 0.09	2.79
Tokyo	104.88	111.87	+ 1.62	
-do- Accum	105.94	113.00	+ 1.63	
UK Enterprise	353.81	377.39†	- 2.56	1.97
-do- Accum	443.30	472.85†	- 3.24	1.97
UK Equity	327.30	349.12†	- 0.80	2.37
-do- Accum	667.49	712.00†	- 1.62	2.37
US Smllr Cos	243.28	259.49	+ 2.00	
-do- Accum	243.28	259.49	+ 2.00	
Institutional Funds				
European	309.16	320.86†	- 0.20	1.15
-do- Accum	351.03	364.30†	- 0.22	1.15
Euro Smllr Cos	39.06	40.50	- 0.12	0.99
-do- Accum	42.22	43.69	- 0.13	0.99
Global Equity Inc	94.83	98.84	+ 0.03	0.80
Japan Smllr Cos	27.56	28.30†	- 0.19	0.10
-do- Accum	27.83	28.98†	- 0.19	0.10
Mngd Balanced	238.11	245.94	- 0.34	3.77
-do- Accum	277.45	286.58	- 0.84	3.77
Overseas Equity	222.54	231.61†	+ 0.67	0.91
-do- Accum	234.30	244.15†	+ 0.69	0.91
Overs Smllr Cos	140.04	145.87	- 0.76	0.65
-do- Accum	148.15	154.32	- 0.81	0.65
Pacific	301.88	314.25	+ 3.86	1.23
-do- Accum	336.63	350.65	+ 4.30	1.23
Recovery	125.09	126.12†	- 15.34	2.80
-do- Accum	127.91	129.07†	- 17.07	2.80
UK Index	280.76	289.14	- 0.05	3.14
-do- Accum	361.13	372.01	- 0.06	3.14
UK Small Cos	158.27	164.86	+ 0.19	2.24
-do- Accum	175.70	183.02	+ 0.21	2.24
US Small Cos	69.21	71.05	+ 0.63	0.61
-do- Accum	70.07	72.96	+ 0.64	0.61
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	63.59	67.35	- 0.13	2.86
Equity Trust	82.95	87.72	+ 0.11	2.71
Equity Strategy	98.86	104.54	- 0.28	1.30
European Opps	110.97	117.35	- 1.99	0.71
UK Smaller Cos	87.26	92.30	- 0.01	0.79
Mainstream Inc	98.27	103.83	+ 0.02	8.51
Japanese	57.43	60.73	+ 0.38	
Asia Pacific	128.69	138.09	+ 1.05	0.33
American	148.89	157.45	+ 1.85	0.85
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	33.83	33.83†		5.62
UK General Inc	67.05	71.48†	+ 0.07	3.03
-do- Accum	91.60	95.90†	+ 0.08	3.03
Intl Income	212.64	222.98†	+ 1.21	1.41
-do- Accum	537.08	571.38†	+ 2.14	1.41
European	111.83	118.48	- 0.24	1.56
Japan	69.72	73.72†	+ 0.51	0.24
Americas	107.30	115.68†	+ 0.71	1.15
Far East	90.03	96.03	+ 0.22	1.24
Ethical Inc	44.94	48.06†	- 0.10	1.56
UK Blue Chip Inc	42.68	45.50†	- 0.03	3.43
High Inc Inc	44.64	47.61†	+ 0.05	4.16
UK Global Inc	50.74	54.07†	+ 0.03	1.82
Wrldw Tact	86.95	92.49	+ 0.21	1.18
Europa 2000 Tech	77.25	80.81	- 0.23	0.88
Technology	163.38	173.97	+ 0.17	0.74
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	526.10	558.40	- 0.30	2.87
American	382.30	405.30	+ 2.40	0.28
Pacific	378.70	405.00	+ 3.40	0.21
European	719.40	760.40	+ 0.60	0.63
Worldwide	102.70	109.60	+ 1.00	0.90
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	353.60	376.20†		2.10
-do- Accum	468.70	498.70†		2.10
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	306.50	326.10†		1.27
-do- Accum	379.00	403.20		1.27
Select Opportunity Inc	92.23	98.89		1.65
Income Plus Inc	88.14	94.84		3.18
European Inc	465.40	494.60†		0.83
-do- Accum	536.40	570.10		0.83
Far Eastern Inc	184.50	196.30		1.09
-do- Accum	213.50	227.60		1.09
Japanese Inc	47.06	50.07		
Nth American Inc	356.40	378.80		0.40
-do- Accum	391.30	419.20		0.40
Intl Growth Inc	324.30	345.20†		0.58
Wrwide Venture Inc	93.96	99.96		0.63
SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND MGMT 0131 655 3724				
Equity Inc	479.60	511.50	- 0.70	2.38
-do- Accum	735.80	784.70	- 1.10	2.38
UK High Inc	234.30	248.80	- 0.40	2.22

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	363.50	387.70	- 0.30	2.22
Europe Inc	501.40	534.80	- 4.80	0.18
Nth Amer Inc	351.60	374.90	+ 1.50	
Global Inc	260.50	277.80	- 1.00	
Global Acc	281.80	300.50	- 1.10	
UK Spec Sits Inc	146.40	156.10		1.58
South East Asia	230.70	246.10	+ 1.00	0.23
Cash Trust Inc	100.90	100.90	+ 0.10	5.44
UK Smlr Cos Inc	134.70	143.60		1.55
-do- Accum	142.50	152.00		1.56
Intl Bond Inc	89.40	94.91	- 0.30	5.13
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010	173.80	182.90†	- 0.70	0.43
European	152.10	160.10†	- 0.10	
Nth American	131.20	138.10†	+ 0.10	6.56
Intl Bond & Conv	358.80	359.70	+ 0.10	1.88
Funded Pension (E)	130.00	138.80	+ 0.30	0.88
Smaller Cos	181.50	191.10	+ 0.20	1.96
UK General #	89.38	94.08	+ 0.14	
Far Eastern				
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 6225				
Continental	95.65	101.50†		0.82
Global Gwth	81.87	86.75	+ 0.07	1.16
Inv Tst Port	60.91	64.79	+ 0.20	2.38
Managed	214.10	214.79†		1.56
Pref Inc #	110.50	117.50†		5.24
Smaller Cos	296.70	315.60†		0.85
Ireland Stk Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	109.47		+ 0.02	4.48
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.83		+ 0.01	5.01
Corporate Inc ‡	104.23		- 0.05	5.15
Tel Pen ‡	119.29		+ 1.79	
Japan ‡	73.86		+ 0.63	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	140.47		+ 1.53	
European ‡	173.06		+ 0.07	
Global Bond ‡	90.15		+ 0.29	7.64
Sunrise ‡	48.34		+ 0.53	
UK Growth ‡	114.29		- 0.25	2.52
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	113.25		+ 0.26	2.49
Investment Trust ‡	117.33		+ 0.70	1.43
The Football Fd ‡	100.00			
Reserve Roll Up ‡	97.84			
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	440.30	465.90	- 8.30	
Capital	153.70	164.40	- 0.40	1.00
Cash	101.76	101.76	+ 0.01	5.58
European	177.80	187.20	- 2.70	0.51
Far Eastern	154.00	162.90	- 1.20	0.06
Growth	181.50	192.00	- 0.90	0.95
Income #	149.40	158.00	+ 0.10	4.82
Magnum	162.60	173.90	- 0.40	1.06
Smlr Secs	614.30	650.10	- 1.50	0.18
Thoroughbred	189.70	202.90†	- 0.50	1.05
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 288 422				
Central Finance	58.97	62.92†		7.00
Ethical	89.72	95.95	+ 0.16	0.83
European Growth	86.91	92.16	+ 0.41	
Income	66.83	71.47	+ 0.03	3.23
Intl Growth	113.80	120.60	+ 0.60	0.06
Managed	97.79	103.00	+ 0.40	0.25
UK Growth	83.38	89.17†	- 0.13	1.32
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 33 39 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	48.78	49.03†	- 0.20	1.00
Global Advtg Acc	53.34	53.61	- 0.20	1.00
Income Advtg Inc	39.09	39.29		2.88
Income Advtg Acc	45.97	46.20		2.88
UK Equity Gth Acc	111.80	118.80	- 0.20	0.76
Premier Inc Inc	51.11	53.60	+ 0.20	6.95
Premier Inc Acc	55.57	58.49	+ 0.20	6.95
Managed Acc	68.94	72.13	- 0.20	1.40
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	45.05	47.76	+ 0.10	3.56
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	60.05	63.66	+ 0.10	3.56
UK Sml Cos Acc	49.33	52.30		0.43
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	86.16	91.55	- 0.10	1.71
UK Equity Gen Inc	61.68	65.55	- 0.10	1.71
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	32.80	34.79	+ 0.10	6.26
Quasi Liq Ch Acc	364.80	385.97	- 2.70	1.29
Nth American Acc	62.86	66.79	- 0.30	
Pacific Basin	46.68	49.52	- 0.40	0.21
European Acc	63.69	67.88	- 0.09	0.39
Japan Acc	21.17	22.50	- 0.20	
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global A (US$)	4.786	5.081†	+ 0.095	1.82
US Eqts (US$)	3.778	4.084	+ 0.016	0.75
Far East Eqts (yen)	244.90	260.10	+ 3.90	
FT Europe	165.70	176.00	+ 0.50	1.12
FT N Amer (US$)	2.946	3.121	- 0.008	
FT Japan (yen)	189.30	200.00	- 0.54	
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	3.107	3.300	- 0.014	0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	542.40	575.00	- 2.70	
British #	1393.40	1474.20	- 1.80	2.85
Emerging Mkts	178.00	190.50	- 0.68	0.68
Euro Small Co	64.33	68.86	- 0.10	0.61
Japan	102.10	108.40	+ 0.90	
New Pacific	452.30	481.70	+ 2.70	1.11
-do- Accum	486.70	518.30	+ 2.90	1.11
Inv Trust Acc	316.40	337.50	+ 0.60	1.16
Mngd Equity	213.40	225.80	+ 0.30	1.87
Mngd Cash	95.61	95.61	+ 0.01	5.40
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 300				
Equity	1176.60	1257.00†		1.46
North America	205.10	219.30†	+ 0.30	0.04
Far East	168.00	179.60†	+ 1.60	0.28
Wrldwd Bond	57.20	60.68	- 0.05	5.48
European	160.50	171.80	+ 0.40	0.19
Equity Income #	118.70	126.99		4.55
Portfolio	118.90	127.10	+ 0.30	1.20
UK Leading Cos	85.86	91.71	- 0.05	2.24
High Inc Bond	50.96	51.88†	+ 0.09	6.22
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	80.55	85.94	+ 0.83	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
[illegible] UT	24.96	26.58	+ 0.28	0.32
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	101.51	107.99	+ 0.20	6.83
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	106.11	112.89	+ 0.22	6.83
European	54.67	58.17†	+ 0.12	0.23
High Income	37.51	39.91	- 0.39	3.65
Japan	28.30	30.11†	+ 0.44	0.01
Managed Assets	150.56	161.03†	+ 0.13	2.28
North American	49.30	52.45†	+ 0.30	0.21
Smlr Co's Inc	40.45	43.04†	- 0.05	1.98
Smlr Co's Acc	44.45	47.29†	- 0.05	1.98
UK Growth Inc	68.16	72.52†	- 0.02	2.23
UK Growth Acc	77.84	82.61†	- 0.02	2.23
UK Income	48.55	51.94	- 0.39	3.00
Worldwide Gth	42.82	45.60†	+ 0.42	0.01
SLC Pensions Funds				
Asian & Oceanic Ex	32.72	34.77	+ 0.38	1.33
European Exempt	106.69	109.99	+ 0.40	0.83
Japan Exempt	24.65	24.80	+ 0.43	0.18
US Exempt	102.75	105.93	+ 0.29	1.01
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	59.55	63.35	- 0.30	
Cap Protector Inc	52.11	55.44	+ 0.46	2.78
UK Income Inc	66.38	70.82	- 0.04	3.21
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	37.03	39.16	+ 0.08	8.59
Mngd High Yld Inc	97.59	103.82	+ 0.01	4.42
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	95.34	101.43	- 0.08	3.30
UK Smaller Cos	44.84	47.70	+ 0.04	1.70
Pacific Gth Fnd	53.68	57.11	+ 0.52	0.68
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	336.18	354.75	+ 0.60	
-do- Accum	370.29	391.84	+ 0.66	
Brit Growth	130.43	138.02	- 0.11	1.51
-do- Accum	168.13	178.02	- 0.15	1.51
European	137.71	145.73	+ 0.44	0.02
-do- Accum	147.09	155.65	+ 0.46	0.02
Extra Income #	225.86	239.02	+ 0.12	4.55
-do- Accum #	415.40	439.58	+ 0.23	4.55
Smaller Cos	99.59	105.38	- 0.04	0.56
-do- Accum	114.16	120.63	- 0.04	0.56
General	382.11	404.35†	- 0.55	1.80
-do- Accum	823.67	871.55†	- 1.19	1.80
Premier Income	52.94	56.15†	+ 0.11	6.11
-do- Accum	135.41	141.85†	+ 0.27	6.11
Income #	404.03	427.55	- 0.73	3.39
-do- Accum #	949.37	1004.00	- 1.72	3.39
Pacific	392.98	415.85	+ 1.15	0.09
-do- Accum	412.59	436.95	+ 1.20	0.08
International	645.47	683.04	+ 2.09	0.07
-do- Accum	850.49	899.99	+ 2.75	0.07
Nat Resources	176.31	186.57	- 0.14	0.33
Spcl Opps	136.78	144.74	+ 0.06	0.97
-do- Accum	180.60	191.11	+ 0.07	0.97
Environmental Inv	89.63	94.85†	- 1.26	0.67
Selector	79.85	84.28	- 0.03	1.36
-do- Accum	93.06	98.48	- 0.03	1.36
High Income #	73.94	78.24†	+ 0.03	4.39
-do- Accum #	102.60	108.57†	+ 0.03	4.39
Intl Income	63.26	66.95	- 0.17	4.69
-do- Accum	84.55	89.47	- 0.23	4.69
Selector Income	70.30	74.40	- 0.03	4.26
-do- Accum	89.37	94.57	- 0.04	4.20
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 667 1018				
British	446.80	470.32	- 0.40	2.18
European	82.60	86.49	+ 0.38	1.26
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	249.77	264.30†	+ 0.57	2.15
Glob Balncd Inc	205.12	217.06	- 0.35	3.46
Value Tst Inc	155.45	164.50	+ 0.95	1.89
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	41.12	42.78	- 0.16	6.20
European Growth	361.98	378.03	+ 1.62	0.90
Exempt	731.48	763.27†	- 0.86	3.00
Global Em Mkts	91.96	98.29	+ 1.03	0.50
Japan Tst	65.85	69.95	+ 1.63	
Little Dragons	115.94	121.40	+ 0.83	
Nth Amer Gwth	332.09	347.73†	+ 3.24	0.50
Oriental Income #	48.17	50.43	+ 0.27	3.70
Preference	138.03	144.50	+ 0.10	6.20
Tiger	311.77	326.39	+ 2.16	
UK Blue Chip	84.71	88.70†	- 0.03	1.70
UK Growth	726.74	764.12	- 0.78	0.80
UK High Yield #	126.42	132.37†	- 0.32	5.20
UK Mid-Cap	367.91	385.24	- 0.78	1.60
UK Smlr Cos	155.34	162.65	+ 0.27	0.60
UK Smlr Cos Div #	96.84	101.40†	+ 0.12	5.40
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 336				
UK Equity Income #	123.29	131.16	- 0.57	4.77
UK Equity Growth	110.69	117.76	- 0.60	2.71
European	82.68	87.94	+ 0.22	1.25
Nth American	93.48	99.45	+ 0.14	0.11
Far Eastern	74.71	79.48†	+ 0.75	0.72
Money	72.68	72.68	+ 0.01	4.77
Fixed Interest #	83.33	88.65	+ 0.16	7.74
Index Linked Gilt	75.95	80.80	- 0.13	1.19
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD 0345 959595				
Income Trust	108.65	108.65	+ 0.18	6.53
Pens Growth	107.94	107.94		
Pens Inc Protct	104.55	104.56		
UK Index Tracking @	141.16	141.16	- 0.06	2.80
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0161 831 7455				
Australasian Gold	28.95	30.47†	- 0.14	
Pacific Basin	41.35	43.53	+ 0.27	
Global Bond (US$)	0.9394	0.9785	+ 0.0031	
Penny Share	46.87	49.34	+ 0.03	
Japan Smlr Cos	33.04	34.78	- 0.03	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 623 3444				
Challenger	91.78	94.79	+ 0.09	2.90
Short Dtd Gilt	128.40	128.00		
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7914	0.8017	+ 0.0001	
[illegible]	52.31	54.43	+ 0.07	5.90
Gilt Growth	78.88	83.11	+ 0.14	
Sterling Bond	50.62	52.48	+ 0.11	6.50
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	58.85	62.26	+ 0.55	1.69
UK Stockmarket	109.50	116.20	- 0.20	3.42
Corporate Bd Inc	50.85	53.78	+ 0.02	6.43
Do Accum	52.28	55.38	+ 0.02	6.43

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data; # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge

Equities end all square

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
668	407½	Allied Domecq†	422	− 6½	7.8	12.7
825	477	Bulmer (HP)†	808	+ 1	2.5	18.8
131	59½	Burn Stewart	88½	...	6.4	70.7
980	815	Glenmorangie A	960	...	1.8	26.1
486	411	Grand Metr	442	− 3½	4.5	19.3
483	424	Guinness	438½	+ 4	4.5	13.6
380	315	Highland Dist	351½	..	2.9	17.4
803	255½	Matthew Clark†	280	+ 3	10.4	13.8
141	91½	Minden W	107½	...	5.3	14.5
2812½	1375	SA Breweries	1850½	+ 12½	1.9	..

BANKS

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4171¼	2743¾	ABN-AMRO	4071¾	− 50½	2.9	16.6
811	528	Abbey Natl	793	+ 10	3.7	14.7
452	315	Allied Irish	448	− 1½	4.8	...
389¼	285	Aust New Z	380½	− ¼	5.8	..
7278¾	3643¾	Bank America	7131¼	...	..	..
379½	227½	Bank Scotland	350½	− 4	2.6	12.9
1187½	683	Barclays	1178	+ 1½	3.0	12.8
609½	413	Bk of Ireland	602½	− 5	3.5	13.9
7309¾	4031¼	Citicorp	7216¾			
1575	1259¾	Commerzbk	1259¾	− 21¾	3.5	..
1350	609¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	621¼	− 6¾	0.7	..
3412½	2789½	Deutsche Bk	3081¼	− 40¾	2.1	...
843¾	593¾	Espirito Santo	825		4.1	11.7
1587	600¼	Fuji Bank Y	613	+ 2¾	0.7	...
1568½	851	HSBC	1543	+ 10	3.1	14.6
1520½	930	HSBC HK	1493	+ 10	3.2	14.1
580	385	Irish Perm	570	− 5	2.5	15.6
506	294½	Lloyds TSB	488½	+ 6½	3.0	18.0
754¾	585	Natl Austl Bk	734¼	− ½	5.4	10.2
844½	605½	Nat West	820	+ ½	4.9	11.8
820½	464	Ryl Bk Scot†	617½	+ 1	3.8	13.7
828¾	547	Stand Chart	805½	− 8½	1.9	15.7
£174¾	£131¾	Wells Fargo	£164¾	...	1.9	...
365¼	284	Westpac	353¼	− ¼	3.7	11.8

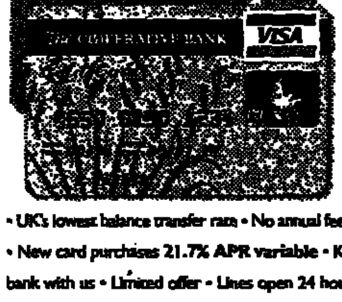
BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	702	Bass	855½	− 4½	3.7	16.9
78	40	Bk for the Bd	64	− 1½	3.4	17.5
205	161	Burtonwd Brwy	191½	− 2	3.7	17.2
144½	92	City Centre Rest	144	...	1.9	27.1
720½	463	Compass Gp	720	+ 7	1.5	28.3
290½	190	Eldridge P 'A'	290½	...	2.3	17.8
540	413	Fuller Sm 'A'	477½		2.5	15.9
636	545½	Greenalls Grp†	549	+ 1½	3.5	17.3
715	587½	Greene King	692½	− 1	2.9	17.1
285	164½	Grosvenor Inns	223½	+ 5	3.2	23.8
262½	204	Groupe Chez Ger	262½	...	1.3	25.5
357	276½	Hardy Hansen†	285½	...	4.5	13.5
3475	2700	Hall J	2725		2.8	14.7
72½	45	Int Business	72	+ 2	2.7	...
355	298	Mansfield	354	..	2.2	16.3
353½	252	Marston Thmp	302½	...	3.1	11.3

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
487½	328	Electrocomponents	416	− 9½	2.1	25.2
314	125½	Eurodis Elec	217½	..	2.9	30.7
156	65	Eurocolor	148½	− 2	5.1	15.1
105	76	European Mtr	91½	+ 2	7.2	9.3
375	217	Evans Halshaw	257½	..	8.0	10.1
67	39½	Fife Indmar	58	..	7.8	7.9
386	239½	Finelist GrpA	370½	− 2	2.1	22.1
33¾	18½	Gardner	30½	+ ½	4.0	
81	33½	Glencharlton	74½	..	1.8	22.0
97½	70½	Goodwin	90½	+ 2	3.8	15.4
101	72	Hartell	87½	..	8.6	8.1
282	216	Harris (Philip)	244½	..	4.5	14.0
317½	200½	Heatons	316½	..	2.8	26.2
200	132	Holdsn Tech	151½	..	5.0	14.2
242½	153	ISA Intl	214	..	1.5	19.5
316	231	Inchcape	261	+ 4½	3.9	22.3
78	33	Jacks (Wm)	52½	..	4.8	18.1
280	158	Kwik-Fit	219½	− 2	3.0	17.8
390	280	Lex Service	318	− 3½	6.1	10.2
155	105	Lookers	109½	...	9.6	7.0
17	10½	Mellon Grp	11½	...	7.0	12.6
9¾	5½	Midsummer	7	..	1.4	18.7
47	31	Midstates	41	− ½	0.7	..
585	300	Nathan	335½	+ 3	3.0	9.3
174½	115	Northamber▼	180½	..	1.1	8.9
379½	201½	Pattco	369½	− ½	2.5	17.7
404½	272	Pendragon	390	...	3.0	18.8
211	145	Perry Gp	207½	...	5.0	10.6
752½	512½	Premier Farnell	537	− 3	2.7	20.9
190	135	Quicks Group	147½	...	5.5	11.1
348	185	RFA	339½	..	1.5	40.3
3	2	Rouse	2½		...	
54	20	Ronson	28	− ½	7.2	9.8
4½	2	Ross Gp	3½			
58	36½	SEP Intl	36½	− ¼	8.1	9.6
195	55	Saltire	58½	− 1	2.1	19.8
417½	245	Time Products	410½	..	3.3	18.8
301½	123	UNIECO	248½	− 5	2.4	17.7
352½	263¾	Vardy (Reg)	332½		2.8	14.5
650	325	WF Elect	615	+ 2¾	2.7	22.2
59	25½	Wigmore	41	+ ¼	2.6	12.1
172½	75½	Wyko	169½	− 2	2.0	18.2
152½	104	Young (H)	151½	...	3.5	13.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
388	288	Antofagasta	385		1.7	15.0
387	283	Ascot Hldgs	311½	− 2½	2.1	...
1056	785	Barlow Rand	817½	− ½	2.8	19.6
340	229	BTR	242	− 7	5.8	18.1
586	411	BAT	525	− 10½	5.9	10.2
147½	108	Bibby (J)	134	....	7.0	7.8
65	50½	Bourley Inv	55	...	8.4	9.3
972	715	Charter	732	− 20½	4.8	10.4
328	205	Cookson	247	− 6	4.4	12.8
229½	141	Cowell	219½		5.8	10.6
297½	204	DCC	297½	+ 2½	2.9	11.8
141¾	108½	Crompton Hldg	130		6.0	13.4
133½	75½	Hanson	87½	− ¼	2.1	4.4
172½	118½	Harrison Crsfld	128	+ ½	8.7	12.7
588¾	379½	Hutch Whamp	450½	− 4	1.5	26.1
429	352	Imperial Tobacco	409	+ 2	6.1	8.2



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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1996/97 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
101[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	100[illegible]	+ [illegible]	6.97	6.11
107[illegible]	100	Exch 10½% 1997	100¾ †	+ [illegible]	10.49	6.23
103[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	101[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.63	6.09
114[illegible]	102[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	105[illegible]	+ [illegible]	14.18	6.13
108½	100[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	103[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.40	6.24
109[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	101	+ [illegible]	7.18	6.30
116[illegible]	109	Treas 14% 1998-01	109[illegible]	+ [illegible]	12.82	6.42
122[illegible]	113[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	113[illegible]	+ [illegible]	13.63	6.49
114[illegible]	108	Exch 12% 1998	109	+ [illegible]	11.07	6.50
109[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	105[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.09	6.58
115[illegible]	110[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	111[illegible]	+ [illegible]	11.03	6.60
112[illegible]	107	Treas 10½% 1999	108[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.71	6.54
99½	98	Treas 6% 1999	99[illegible]	+ [illegible]	6.07	6.52
110[illegible]	107[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	108[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.41	6.66
108[illegible]	100[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	106[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.47	6.70
105[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	104[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.68	6.73
124[illegible]	117[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	118[illegible]	+ [illegible]	10.95	6.75
114	100[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	111	+ [illegible]	9.01	6.80
101[illegible]	96½	Treas 7% 2001	100[illegible]	+ [illegible]	6.95	6.81

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1996/97 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
114[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9½% 2002	112[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.65	6.94
105[illegible]	98[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	105[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.59	6.82
117[illegible]	111[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	115[illegible]		8.66	7.00
121[illegible]	114[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	116[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.88	6.84
86[illegible]	78[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	86[illegible]	− [illegible]	4.07	5.79
114[illegible]	107[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	114[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.30	7.03
99[illegible]	91[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	98[illegible]	+ [illegible]	6.85	6.99
109[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2005	109[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.78	7.07
122[illegible]	108[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	114[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.29	7.08
131[illegible]	123[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	129[illegible]	..	9.69	7.03
102[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 7½% 2006	102[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.30	7.10
107[illegible]	95[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	104[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.44	7.13
104[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	103[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.72	7.03
125[illegible]	115[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122[illegible]xd	+ [illegible]	9.57	6.99
109[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	109[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.73	7.13
114[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	114[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.89	7.18
106[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	105[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.58	7.22

LONGS (over 15 years)

1996/97 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
91[illegible]	81[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	91[illegible]	+ [illegible]	6.86	7.26
115[illegible]	104[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	115[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.80	7.26
115[illegible]	104[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	115[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.77	7.27
86[illegible]	75[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	85[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.45	7.03
108[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	106[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.49	7.29
104[illegible]	93[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	103[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.46	7.32
107[illegible]	95[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	107[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.45	7.28
115[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	115[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.61	7.31
108[illegible]	95[illegible]	Tr 8% 2021	108[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.39	7.27

UNDATED

1996/97 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
47½	41[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	47[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.39	
32[illegible]	29½	Treas 2½%	32[illegible]	...	7.67	.
54[illegible]	45[illegible]	Consols 4%	53[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.52	...

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1996/97 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
114[illegible]	111[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	114[illegible]		.	2.01
187[illegible]	176[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	187[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.52	3.09
184[illegible]	171[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	184[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.74	3.15
120[illegible]	112[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	120[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.79	3.16
185[illegible]	170[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	185½	− [illegible]	2.92	3.20
176[illegible]	161[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	176[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.03	3.26
183[illegible]	166[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	182[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.11	3.32
150[illegible]	136[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	150[illegible]xd	− [illegible]	3.17	3.34
161[illegible]	145[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	160[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.23	3.39
154[illegible]	138[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	154	− [illegible]	3.31	3.45
128[illegible]	115[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	128½	− [illegible]	3.32	3.45
126[illegible]	113[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	126[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.32	3.45

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184½	81	Alexon	175½	+ 2	..	18.4
249	135½	Allders†	169	+ ½	4.5	..
520	228	Allied Carpets	297½			25.8
789	598	Argos	652½	+ ½	2.8	23.4
220½	176	Ashley (Laura)	146½	− 2	0.8	42.7
246	150	Austin Reed	220	.	3.8	23.9
164½	126	Beattie (J)	150	+ 1	5.7	15.6
133½	95	Bentalls	126		2.2	36.2
129	97	Bellwinch	105½		3.2	14.7
438	49½	Blacks Leis	438	+ 5½	0.8	28.5
224½	141	Body Shop	184½	+ 1½	2.6	17.3
701¼	550	Boots	689	− 5½	3.4	18.4
28	11½	Brown & Jackson	12½		..	..
452½	293	Brown (N)	436½	− 1	1.7	27.4
162½	125	Burton†	148¾	+ 2	7.4	19.1
658	420	Carpetright†	617	+ 4½	3.3	24.3
292	186	[illegible] Int	282	..	1.5	27.4
510	363	Church	507½	..	3.8	18.8
240	111	Clinton Cards	237½	+ 7½	2.7	16.5
181	63	Ctry Casuals	80½	+ 1½	7.8	9.8
531	298¼	Courts Furnish	530	..	0.7	22.5
656	381	DFS Furniture	609	...	2.1	31.0
587½	403½	Dixons Grp†	498	− 4½	2.3	18.5
24¾	9½	Elec Boutique	24½	+ 1½	..	.
9½	3¼	ERA Gp	3½	− ¼	3.6	...
116	52	Essex Furn	81½	...	6.0	.
205	120	Etam	132½	− 1	1.2	
531	211	Fine Art Dev	249	..	6.3	8.6
155½	88	Fired Earth	153½	...	1.7	23.8
215	138	Flying Flw	212½	+ 2	2.1	17.4
126	58	Foreminster†	83½		1.8	..
288	143	French Conn	269½	...	1.2	26.0
195	88	Frost Group	140		6.2	17.9
83	46½	Gieves	56½	− 1	5.0	13.5
484¼	194	Goldsmiths Gp	390	− 2½	1.8	23.6
770	579	GUS†	619½	− 5	3.4	16.2
289½	100	H&C Furnishings†	275½	...	1.8	56.8
440	301	Hamleys	380	...	2.9	18.1
110	74½	Hampden Grp	80	..	3.3	11.4
190	134½	Hse of Fraser	155	+ 4	4.4	42.1
81½	49½	Hughes (TJ)	75½	+ 1	4.5	18.0
379¼	190	JJB Sports	363½	− 1½	1.2	32.6
695	504	Kingfisher	668½	− 2½	3.1	19.2
322½	166	Kingsbury Grp	197½	..	2.4	19.5
445	275	Liberty	382½		0.8	
200	167½	Lowelight	180½	..	3.3	18.7
527½	258	Lloyds Chem	525	.	2.5	19.7

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
106	74	Utd Carriers	88½	.	4.5	..

WATER

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
637	512	Anglian†	629½	+ 8	6.2	7.6
835	656	Hyder†	832½	+ 2½	6.1	11.4
108	95	Hyder Cm Prf	108½		9.1	
640	420	Mid Kent Hldgs	572½	+ 2½	6.5	9.5
727	518	Severn Trent†	715	− 6	5.9	7.9
2920	2375	South Staffs	2805	..	3.5	14.4
731	489	South West†	675½	− 1	6.0	7.5
685	525¼	Thames	674	+ 9	5.6	8.7
697	529	Utd Utilities†	680	+ 4½	6.3	12.3
394	295	Wessex†	365	− 5	5.4	7.2
791	580	Yorkshire†	752½	+ 2½	5.3	9.9

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107½	18	Abacus Recruit	100½	..		28.7
213	95	Cafe Inns	205	..	1.5	15.8
177½	58	Country Gdns	157½	− 2	1.1	16.2
2525	860	Dawson Hldgs	2525	..	2.0	19.1
47½	14	Freepages	47½	+ ½	...	...
117	88½	Megalomedia	90	.	...	90.5
475	22½	Memory Corp	50	.	.	.
238½	85½	Old English Pub	238½		0.8	75.2
590	151	Prism Rail	395	.		...
1225	979	Resco Egy	1085	− 40	0.1	
690	520	Southern News	690	+ 5	3.2	19.7
79½	50	Southern Vects	67½		3.5	15.6
496	122	Surrey Fr Ins	471	..	0.7	32.5
79½	41	Trocadero	42	.		..

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited. ... No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

Court of Appeal

Secondary disaster victim cannot recover

McFarlane v Wilkinson and Another
Hegarty v E. E. Caledonia Ltd

Before Lord Justice Saville, Lord Justice Hutchison and Lord Justice Brooke

[Judgment February 5]

A plaintiff on a support vessel near the Piper Alpha oil rig explosions could not recover damages for injury as a primary victim, as it was not reasonably foreseeable to the defendants that the chain of events triggered off by their negligence would include the risk that someone of reasonable fortitude would reasonably have such a fear of immediate injury to himself as to lead to shock-induced psychiatric illness.

Nor could he succeed in an action for breach of statutory duty as he could not satisfy the court that a likely, and not merely a foreseeable outcome of the relevant breach of duty, was that the mental health of someone on a rescue vessel more than 100 metres away would be impaired.

While it was no doubt true that some litigants achieved favourable settlements or obtained judgments which they should not have obtained if the law had been applied correctly, because counsel included some matter in the pleadings which in his or her opinion was not likely to succeed at trial but which was reasonably arguable: it would be quite wrong to conclude from those facts that barristers who decided in the exercise of their judgment not to include such pleas were ipso facto negligent.

The consequence of that would be that the measure of damages would be the loss of the opportunity to recover sums to which one was not lawfully entitled.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing appeals by Mr Nigel Wilkinson, QC and Miss Anna Guggenheim, of counsel, against so much of the judgment of Mr Justice Rix on July 26, 1995 as failed to strike out the whole of a statement of claim in an action for professional negligence in connection with their alleged failure, inter alia, to include in the pleadings an alternative allegation of breach of statutory duty in an action for damages for negligence brought by Mr Francis McFarlane against *E. E. Caledonia Ltd*; and in dismissing an appeal by Mr William Hegarty from a decision of Mr Justice Popplewell, on a preliminary point, on December 1, 1995, that he was not owed any relevant common law or statutory duty by the defendants, E. E. Caledonia Ltd, arising out of the Piper Alpha explosion.

Regulation 32 of the Offshore Installations (Operational Safety Health and Welfare) Regulations (SI 1976 No 1019) provides:

"(3) It shall be the duty of every person while on or near an offshore installation — (a) not to do anything likely to endanger the safety or health of himself or other persons on or near the installation or to render unsafe any equipment used on or near it."

Mr Rupert Jackson, QC and Mr Roger Stewart for Mr Wilkinson and Miss Guggenheim; Mr Benet Hytner, QC and Mr Paul Lonergan for Mr McFarlane; Mr Christopher Gardner, QC and Mr Jonathan Waite for Mr Hegarty; Mr Adrian Hamilton, QC and Mr Alistair Schaff for E. E. Caledonia Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE BROOKE said that for the purpose of obtaining a ruling on a preliminary issue it was taken as agreed that each plaintiff had suffered psychiatric injury as a result of witnessing horrifying events in the North Sea at the time of the Piper Alpha disaster in July 1988.

Both men were employed as painters on that rig during the day and at night were housed in the MV Tharos, which was lying about 550 metres south-west of the rig when the first explosion occurred at about 10pm.

Miss Guggenheim, as junior counsel, and Mr Wilkinson, as leading counsel, were instructed to act for Mr McFarlane. His claim succeeded on a preliminary issue of liability before Mrs Justice Smith in December 1992 but that judgment was overturned by the Court of Appeal (*The Times* September 30, 1993).

In July 1995 Mr Justice Rix gave judgment on Mr McFarlane's claim that the barristers were negligent. In short, the judge held that if it could be shown the original defendants were in breach of a statutory duty owed to any person on or near the Piper Alpha, then Mr McFarlane, as another person near the Piper Alpha at the relevant time, could have recovered damages for his psychiatric illness.

The judge rejected a contention by Mr Hytner that even if, contrary to his view, Mr McFarlane had no viable cause of action for breach of statutory duty, he could nevertheless recover damages for the loss of the opportunity of negotiating an out of court settlement in reliance on that point because through his barristers' negligence the point had not been pleaded.

On December 1, 1995 Mr Justice Popplewell gave judgment in Mr Hegarty's action, which included a claim for damages for breach of statutory duty.

In doing so he differed from Mr Justice Rix on the interpretation of the relevant regulation. For that reason both appeals were listed to be heard together.

The attractiveness of a claim arising from the regulations to plaintiffs in the position of Mr McFarlane and Mr Hegarty was that a cause of action for breach of statutory duty, if a good one, would with one bound free them from the control mechanisms imposed on the claims of secondary victims by the House of Lords in *Alcock v Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police* ([1992] 1 AC 310) in much the same way as most of the successful police plaintiffs in *Frost v Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police* (*The Times* November 6, 1996) were able to recover damages as primary victims by reason of a breach of duty contained in their contracts of employment.

If the plaintiffs could bring their cases within the language of the regulation, that imposed strict liability: see *MacMillan v Wimpey Offshore Engineers and Constructors* (1991 SLT 515).

His Lordship considered that on the evidence Mr Justice Popplewell had been right not to identify Mr Hegarty as a primary victim. Once he had found that a fireball which frightened Mr Hegarty had stopped short of Tharos, and that Tharos had come close to danger but was not in fact ever in danger, it was almost inevitable that he should hold that Mr Hegarty's fear for his life was not a rational one. After all the fireball fizzled out more than 50 metres away from where Mr Hegarty was when he saw it.

Turning to Mr Hegarty's claim for breach of statutory duty, it had been persuasively submitted to the court that the mere fact that a breach of statutory duty caused the plaintiff's injury, on the application of the "but for" test or any similar test, was not sufficient.

The plaintiff must fall within the class of persons which the statute was intended to protect.

Most of the 1976 Regulations were concerned with protecting the safety of the installation in question and those on it. Regulation 32 was different because it included those who were near the installation when the breach occurred. However, his Lordship was quite satisfied, from the arguments addressed to the court, that they only qualified for protection if the breach was likely to endanger them, that is that it was probable that it would.

In order to succeed the plaintiff would have to satisfy the court that a likely, and not merely a possible foreseeable outcome of the breach of duty was that the mental health of someone on a rescue vessel more than 100 metres away would be impaired.

During the course of his submissions on the barristers' appeal, Mr Hytner boldly argued that if a point was properly arguable and had a reasonable prospect of success then a barrister would be in breach of a duty of care to his client if that point was not included in the pleading.

He pointed out that it was not unknown for unmeritorious points to succeed at trial, or for clients to accept sums offered in settlement because they mistakenly saw more merit in the point than was justified.

The evidence showed that junior counsel had interpreted the effect of regulation 32(3)(a) correctly. She was also correct in her judgment that a plea of breach of statutory duty added nothing to the plea based on negligence, involving as it did the higher hurdle of likelihood, or probability, rather than foreseeable possibility.

It was quite absurd to consider that she could be liable in negligence for exercising her judgment in the way that she did, or that leading counsel could be negligent in failing to advise the inclusion of that plea.

Lord Justice Hutchison and Lord Justice Saville agreed.

Solicitors: Reynolds Porter Chamberlain; Evill & Coleman; Levinson Gray; Ince & Company.

Court of Appeal

Direct debit precludes set-off defence

Esso Petroleum Co Ltd v Milton

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Thorpe and Sir John Balcombe

[Judgment February 5]

Modern commercial practice was to treat a payment by direct debit in the same way as a payment by cheque and, as such, the equivalent of cash. In general, a payment by direct debit for goods or services received should preclude a defence of set-off.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Simon Brown, dissenting on the above point) so stated allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Esso Petroleum Co Ltd, from the decision of Judge Anthony Thompson, QC, sitting in Exeter as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division on June 21, 1996 whereby he dismissed their application for summary judgment against the defendant, Howard James Milton.

The defendant was the licensee of two of the plaintiffs' service stations in Exeter. His case was that he could not continue to operate those stations profitably on the ever more stringent financial terms the plaintiffs were imposing, so that he regarded the business relationship between them as being over.

Between April 1 and 9, 1996 the plaintiffs made nine fuel deliveries to the defendant totalling £167,895. Deliveries were routinely paid for under direct debit arrangements. The defendant had cancelled his direct debit mandate on April 9.

Mr Mark Hapgood, QC, for the plaintiffs; Mr Michael Soole for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that the central question was whether under the direct debit system the debtor should be entitled to escape the specially restrictive rules as to the stay of judgments and the scope of defences which apply with regard to dishonoured cheques.

In submitting not, Mr Hapgood relied on *Nova (Jersey) Knit Ltd v Kammgarn Spinnerei GmbH* ([1977] 1 WLR 713, 721) per Lord Wilberforce. Although it would be commercially convenient to place direct debit arrangements on the same footing as cheques, his Lordship was ultimately unpersuaded by the argument.

The plaintiffs contended, inter alia, that the defendant's counterclaim did not truly impugn their entitlement to immediate payment for fuel deliveries so that no equitable set-off could in justice arise.

For equitable set-off to apply it must be established first, that the counterclaim was at least as closely connected with the same transaction as that giving rise to the claim, and second, that the relationship between the respective claims was such that it would be manifestly unjust to allow one to be enforced without regard to the other.

The mere fact both claim and counterclaim arose out of a single trading relationship between the parties was, in his Lordship's judgment, wholly insufficient to support an equitable set-off.

His Lordship's reasons for accepting the plaintiffs' insufficient connection argument included much of the thinking underlying their direct debit argument.

The two arguments were by no means mirror images of each other, in particular because of the additional range of considerations to which regard could, indeed must, be had, when deciding the insufficient argument.

Not least among those was, as stated, the essentially liquid nature of the commodity here supplied, a consideration obviously irrelevant to the direct debit argument. Tempting though it was to allow the appeal on that crisper, narrower ground, his Lordship was convinced that it would be a mistake to do so.

To treat cheques as cash was historically justifiable and achieved a broad measure of certainty and justice: to extend that principle to direct debit arrangements would not. His Lordship would allow the appeal only on the ground of insufficient connection.

LORD JUSTICE THORPE, agreeing in the result, said that he would hold for the plaintiffs on the direct debit argument.

While his Lordship was conscious of the difficulties and dangers involved in such an extension, he believed that it was consistent with the principle stated by Lord Wilberforce in the *Nova (Jersey) Knit* case.

Where goods were effectively sold for cash the seller should have the security that cash brought when for mutual convenience the parties had adopted the banking mechanism in general usage for the transfer of cash from one account to another. Twenty years ago that was still by cheque.

The defendant's annual petrol purchases under the licence agreements amounted to about £5 million and the plaintiffs' daily collection through the direct debit system for all petrol sales varied between £9 and £20 million. The modern mechanism for handling what were effectively cash sales on that scale was the direct debit system.

So it seemed to his Lordship that it was a natural evolution rather than an extension of the *Nova Knit* principle to hold that the seller of goods for cash transferred by the direct debit mechanism should be in no worse position than if he had accepted a cheque on delivery.

SIR JOHN BALCOMBE agreed with Lord Justice Thorpe and would allow the appeal also on the ground of the direct debit argument. Modern commercial practice was to treat a direct debit in the same way as a payment by cheque and, as such, the equivalent of cash.

Like Lord Justice Thorpe, his Lordship accepted the fundamental principle that, in general, a payment by direct debit for goods or services received should preclude a defence of set-off.

His Lordship agreed with Lord Justice Simon Brown, and for the reasons he gave, that the counterclaim was insufficiently connected with the claim to allow for the defence of equitable set-off.

Solicitors: Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield; Anstey Sargent & Probert, Exeter.

Federation can be sued as employers' organisation

National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses Ltd v Philpott

Before Mr Justice Kirkwood, Lord Gladwin of Clee and Mrs J. Matthias

[Judgment January 31]

The National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses Ltd, an organisation with a membership of 200,000 with the object of protecting, promoting and furthering the interests of persons who were self-employed or who directed or controlled small businesses, was held to be an "organisation of employers" within section 12 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, so that a woman whose membership was not renewed was entitled to bring a complaint of sex discrimination against it.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when dismissing an appeal from an industrial tribunal sitting at Ashford, Kent last June that it had jurisdiction to hear a complaint by the applicant, Mrs E. Philpott, that the federation had unlawfully discriminated against her on the ground of her sex or marital status.

Section 12 of the 1975 Act provides:

"(1) This section applies to an organisation of workers, an organisation of employers, or any other organisation whose members carry on a particular profession or trade for the purposes of which the organisation exists...

"(3) It is unlawful for an organisation to which this section applies, in the case of a woman who is a member of the organisation, to discriminate against her . . . (b) by depriving her of membership..."

Ms Daphne Romney for the federation; Mr Michael Ford for the applicant.

MR JUSTICE KIRKWOOD, delivering the judgment of the tribunal, said that the applicant and her husband had been members of the federation for 20 years. In 1995 the federation had conducted some disciplinary process against Mr Philpott in which the applicant had represented her husband. In January 1995 the national council of the federation decided not to renew her membership.

The applicant maintained she had been discriminated against on the ground of her sex or marital status and made a complaint to an industrial tribunal under section 12 of the 1975 Act.

In response the federation took the preliminary point that it was not an organisation to which section 12 applied.

The federation argument was two-fold:

1 While a majority of its members were in fact employers, a minority were self-employed people who had no employees. Thus it failed to qualify as an organisation of employers on the membership test.

2 The purpose of the formation of the organisation was not primarily to do with the interests of members as employers but to do with their interests as business people. Accordingly it failed to qualify on the purpose test.

The declared objects of the federation were to: "protect, promote and further the interests of persons who are self-employed or direct or control small businesses and to provide a national voice and platform for such persons."

The phrase "employers' association" was defined in section 122(1) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. That was a separate and distinct Act of Parliament with different purposes from the Sex Discrimination Act and the federation was not an employers' association within the meaning of the 1992 Act.

Nevertheless it was worthy of note that an employers' association was defined in the 1992 Act as consisting "wholly or mainly" of employers or individual owners of undertakings and earlier legislation used the same phrase.

It had been argued by the applicant before the industrial tribunal that the federation in fact put forward names of members for the employers' panel for the selection of members for industrial tribunals and that having accepted that it was an organisation representative of employers it could not then argue it was not an employers' organisation.

That argument was accepted by the industrial tribunal. Although the appeal tribunal could see a possible difference between an organisation representative of employers and an organisation of employers, what was important was that the federation had as one of its important characteristics that it was representative of employers.

The appeal tribunal rejected the importance attached by counsel for the federation to the "membership test" and the "purpose test" as too narrow. It was more helpful to look at characteristics.

The federation represented its members who were predominantly employers specifically as employers as well as across a range of other matters. It was an organisation of employers within the meaning of section 12 of the 1975 Act and the industrial tribunal's decision would be upheld.

Solicitors: Wallace Robinson & Morgan, Solihull; Harman & Harman, Canterbury.

Raising illegality under foreign law

Sharab v Salfiti

It was difficult to think of circumstances where it would be fair for the Court of Appeal to allow an application by one party to legal proceedings for an amendment to be made so as to plead the commission by another party of a serious criminal offence under foreign law.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Waller) so stated on December 12 in a reserved judgment refusing an application by Usama Salfiti for leave to adduce evidence as to Libyan law and dismissing his appeal from Mr Justice Ferris in November 1995 that he be ordered to pay US$2.1 million to Daad Sharab.

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said that in truth the defendant's application to introduce evidence was an application to amend the defence by making serious allegations against the plaintiff to which there had been no reference at the trial.

If a party wanted to take a point in his favour raising illegality under a foreign law he was free to do so but it had to be pleaded and proved like any other aspect of the case. The allegation that someone had committed an offence was often a very serious allegation to make.

It would be difficult to think of circumstances where it would be fair to allow, on the application of a party, an amendment to plead the commission of a serious offence under foreign law for the first time in the Court of Appeal, never mind the introduction of fresh evidence to prove it.

Deducting benefit from sum paid into court

Houghton v British Coal Corporation

Before Lord Justice Waite and Mr Justice Singer

[Judgment January 28]

Where a defendant in a personal injury action proposed to make a payment into court and, pursuant to section 93(2)(a)(i) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992, withheld a certified amount of total benefit to which the plaintiff had become entitled as a result of his injury, the actual sum in court was the net figure reached after deducting that statutory withholding.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the British Coal Corporation, defendants in a personal injury action, against the order of Judge Harkins at Newcastle upon Tyne County Court on August 8, 1995, whereby he set aside Deputy District Judge Powell's order upholding acceptance of their payment into court by the plaintiff, Terence Houghton. The acceptance had resulted in a stay of the action.

Miss Catherine Foster for the defendants; Mr Christopher Makey for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE WAITE said that the defendants admitted liability and proposed to make a payment into court. The Department of Social Security certified £9,200 as the relevant deduction of total benefit under the 1992 Act.

The defendants gave the plaintiff notice of payment-in of £25,000 and added that they had withheld £9,200 from their payment into court in accordance with the relevant legislation. The actual amount paid in was £15,800.

The message which the defendants intended to convey by that notice was that £15,800 net had been paid in, being £25,000 less the statutory withholding.

The plaintiff's solicitors interpreted the notice as a total payment of £34,200, of which £25,000 had been paid in. On their advice the plaintiff accepted the payment.

Section 93 of the 1992 Act provided a limited exception to the absolute prohibition in section 82 of any payment of damages by a compensator without making the statutory withholding of the amount certified in the certificate of total benefit.

In that instance, the compensator might either apply in advance for a certificate of total benefit before he paid any money into court and withhold the amount of the certificate from the money paid in (section 93(2)(a)(i)); or he might make a payment in without deduction, rendering himself liable to pay the amount later certified (section 93(2)(a)(ii)).

The former option precluded doubt as to the amount payable to the Department of Social Security and invoked the statutory enlargement under section 93(3)(b), whereby moneys paid into court were to be treated as increased by the amount of the certificate.

Therefore, any plaintiff in a personal injury action who was informed that the defendant, in making a payment-in, had elected to follow the first option had to be taken as aware that the payment-in was one to which the statutory withholding applied. He therefore had notice that the amount regarded as paid into court had been calculated under section 93(3)(b) by adding the amount of the certificate of total benefit to some lesser figure representing the sum actually paid into court.

The notice of payment into court in the present case fell to be read as a notice that the defendants were proceeding under the first option and that the sum paid into court was a sum which, when aggregated with the amount of the sum withheld, yielded £25,000.

Judge Harkins thought that the plaintiff's solicitors' mistake was sufficient to give the court jurisdiction to intervene to set aside the payment-in. *Lambert v Mainland Market Deliveries Ltd* ([1977] 1 WLR 825), going beyond the instances of court error in *Gainsborough Mixed Concrete Ltd v Duplex Petrol Installations Ltd* ([1968] 1 WLR 1463), indicated that there was a reserve power to lift a stay resulting from acceptance of a payment-in.

But it was plain that the power had to be exercised very sparingly and was limited to the instances there cited such as a typing error or conduct amounting to misconduct or foul play. There were no such circumstances in the present case.

Although unambiguous, the legislation was not without complication and there was a risk that it might be misunderstood by a party conducting his own case.

The relevant Rules Committee might wish to consider whether Form 23 of Appendix A to Order 22, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, which required amendment to refer to the 1992 Act, might be amended so as to spell out that the money actually in court was the net figure reached after making the statutory withholding and whether there should be a county court form in similar terms.

Mr Justice Singer agreed.

Solicitors: Nabarro Nathanson, Doncaster; Brian Thompson & Partners, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Cost cutting move

Hoechst Celanese Corporation v BP Chemicals Ltd and Another

In the light of current pressure to reduce the cost of litigation in general, and patent litigation in particular, parties and the court must be astute to prevent the expenditure of time, effort and money on the filing and challenging of unnecessary evidence.

Where a plea of obviousness was in issue, there might well be strong arguments for holding that discovery should not be given of research or development work carried out, by an inventor or anyone else, if that work did not start from, or involve consideration of the pleaded prior art.

Mr Justice Laddie so stated in the Patents Court of the Chancery Division on February 6, when rejecting a plea of obviousness and upholding the validity of Hoechst Celanese Corporation's European Patent (UK) No 0,196,173, relating to the removal of alkyl iodides from acetic acid, which he held had been infringed by the defendants, BP Chemicals Ltd and Purolite International Ltd.

European Law Report

Holding bonds is not an economic activity

Harnas & Helm CV v Staatssecretaris van Financiën

(Case C-80/95)

Before G. F. Mancini, President of the Sixth Chamber and Judges C. N. Kakouris, P. J. G. Kapteyn, G. Hirsch and H. Ragnemalm

Advocate General N. Fennelly

(Opinion November 7, 1996)

[Judgment February 6]

For value-added tax purposes, the mere acquisition and holding of bonds and receipt of income therefrom were not to be regarded as economic activities, conferring on the bondholder the status of a taxable person.

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference under article 177 of the EC Treaty by the Hoge Raad der Nederlanden (Supreme Court of The Netherlands) for a preliminary ruling on a question of interpretation of article 4 of Sixth Council Directive 77/388/EEC of May 17, 1977 on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes: common system of value added tax: uniform basis of assessment (OJ 1977 L145 p1).

Article 4 of the Sixth Directive provides: " 'Taxable person' shall mean any person who . . . carries out . . . any economic activity referred to in paragraph (2) . . .

"(2) . . . The exploitation of . . . intangible property for the purpose of obtaining income therefrom on a continuing basis shall . . . be considered an economic activity. . ."

In its judgment the Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice held:

The plaintiff, a limited partnership, held shares and bonds issued by bodies and undertakings in the USA.

The deduction in its tax return of VAT it had been charged in connection with loan transactions made by it was disallowed on the ground that it had not carried out any economic activity within article 4(2) of the directive and so was not a taxable person within article 4(1).

Article 4 conferred a very wide scope on VAT and "exploitation" in article 4(2) referred to all transactions, whatever their legal form, by which it was sought to obtain income from property on a continuing basis.

However, the court had specified that the mere acquisition and holding of shares in a company was not to be regarded as an economic activity in the meaning of the Sixth Directive, although certain transactions could fall within the scope of VAT where they were affected as part of a share-dealing activity to secure involvement in the management of companies or were a direct, permanent and necessary extension of the taxable activity: see for example Case C-60/90 *Polysar Investments Netherlands BV v Inspecteur der Invoerrechten en Accijnzen, Arnhem* ([1991] ECR I-3111 paragraphs 13-14).

The mere acquisition of financial holdings in other undertakings did not amount to the exploitation of property for the purpose of obtaining income therefrom on a continuing basis, as any dividend yielded by the holding was merely the result of ownership of the property.

Contrary to what had been submitted, there was no relevant distinction between the acquisition and holding of shares and the acquisition and holding of bonds.

The activity of a bondholder could be defined as a form of investment which did not extend further than straightforward asset management.

The income from the bonds derived from the mere fact of holding them, which entitled the holder to payments of interest.

Such interest could not, therefore, be regarded as a return on an economic activity or transaction carried out by the bondholder, since it derived from the mere ownership of the bonds.

On those grounds the Sixth Chamber ruled:

Article 4(2) of the Sixth Directive was to be interpreted as meaning that the mere acquisition of ownership in and the holding of bonds, activities which were not subservient to any other business activity, and the receipt of income therefrom were not to be regarded as economic activities conferring on the person concerned the status of a taxable person.

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CHANGING TIMES

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
Beck Foods Smoked Salmon Limited
Registered number: 974862
Former company name: Eurogame
Trading name(s)
Nature of business: Fish Products
Trade classification: 2140
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 3 February 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): National Westminster Bank plc
Name(s) of administrative receivers: Richard James Rees, Office Holder No. 4620 of Victoria House, 76 Milton Street, Nottingham NG1 3QY and Gordon Iain Bennet, Office Holder No. 6706 of 1 Blythswood Square, Glasgow G2 4AD.

The Insolvency Act 1986
SAMUEL LUCY LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 27th February 1997 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 10th day of February 1997
By Order of the Board
ROBIN WESTWOOD, Director

DRUMTOP LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor) London, W2 6LF, on 24th February 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 10th February 1997
F GANLEY, Director

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF ORDER OF COURT AND MINUTE ON REDUCTION OF CAPITAL AND SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT
Company No 2844979
Whereas THROGMORTON PREFERRED INCOME TRUST PLC having by Special Resolution reduced its capital and share premium account as confirmed by an Order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division dated the 29th January 1997. Now therefore I hereby certify that the said Order and a Minute approved by the Court were registered pursuant to section 138 of the Companies Act, 1985, on the 3rd February 1997. Given at Companies House, Cardiff the 3rd February 1997.
Mr F A JOSEPH
For The Registrar Of Companies

HANNER HOMES (MALLORCA) LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 2246422
On 31 January 1997 the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and John Roger Hill and Martin Fishman of Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BD, were appointed Joint Liquidators by the Members
The Joint Liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to J R Hill, Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading, RG1 3BD by 7 April 1997.
The Joint Liquidators also give notice under the provision of rule 4.182A(6) that on 7 May 1997 they intend to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 7 April 1997 and there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved.
The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.
J R HILL - Joint Liquidator

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
Beck Foods Limited
Registered number: 2330323
Trading name(s)
Nature of business: Meat Products
Trade classification: 2140
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 3 February 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): National Westminster Bank plc
Name(s) of administrative receivers: Richard James Rees, Office Holder No. 4620 of Victoria House, 76 Milton Street, Nottingham NG1 3QY and Gordon Iain Bennet, Office Holder No. 6706 of 1 Blythswood Square, Glasgow G2 4AD.

SHEARER HARRIS LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER 1041342
REGENT STREET BROKERS (CAMBRIDGE) LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER 1200561
(BOTH IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On 3 February 1997 the above named companies were placed in Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders. The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the Liquidator at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 12 March 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The Liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
All known creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Date 12 February 1997
AV Lomas - Liquidator

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
Beck Food Group Limited
Registered number: 02344629
Trading name(s): Beck Meats
Nature of business: Meat Products
Trade classification: 2140
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 3 February 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): National Westminster Bank plc
Name(s) of administrative receivers: Richard James Rees, Office Holder No 4620 of Victoria House, 76 Milton Street, Nottingham NG1 3QY and Gordon Iain Bennet, Office Holder No. 6706 of 1 Blythswood Square, Glasgow G2 4AD

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Saint Sarkis Charity Trust
Scheme: Regulating
Reference: ML/251111/CD(Ldn)
The Commissioners propose to make a scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at the offices of Economic and General Secretarial Limited, 98 Portland Place, London W1N 4ET, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

Charity Commission
Charity: The Stroke Association
Scheme *Transfer of Minor Funds to the British Lung Foundation*
Reference: ALB-14196-CD(Ldn)
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at The Stroke Association, CHSA House, Whitecross Street, London EC1Y 8JJ or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference above.

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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13 1997

Court of Appeal

...it precludes defence

illegality under ...reign law

FOCUS

NATIONAL TRAINING AWARDS

Edward Fennell introduces a four-page report to celebrate the NTA's tenth anniversary and its commitment to learning for life

A showcase of skills to challenge the world

The quality of training in UK industry will be a vital issue in the forthcoming general election. Already, as part of the education debate, it features prominently as one of the hottest topics on the political agenda. But it also has significance within the trade and industry wrangle over inward investment and competitiveness.

A recent policy document from the Labour Party declared: "Britain needs a world-class system of education and training . . . we must act now to equip all of our people with the necessary skills and education to take advantage of the information and technological revolution."

So how good is our current system?

The winners of the 1996 National Training Awards (NTAs), present in London yesterday for an awards ceremony hosted by Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, demonstrate that there are now scores of examples of training excellence.

On show were some 100 organisations — from manufacturing to retail, financial services to the NHS — together with 18 individuals who had come through a series of assessments of the verve and imaginativeness with which they had tackled fresh skills.

At the heart of the awards is the principle that training must be focused on the real needs of an organisation. Training for its own sake carries little weight. Instead, training is seen as an investment of time and money which must be used to achieve concrete objectives.

In short, there should be a clear "loop" of cause and effect which links the development and implementation of training programmes with improvements in business effectiveness. Prue Leith, the patron of this year's awards, says that there is an encouraging trend in industry to target specific objectives.

One example of this comes from Southern Electric, which was faced with the retirement of 500 experienced staff and needed to restock its skill base very quickly. It identified 27 key tasks and 400 staff who would perform them. It then put on a training course costing £333,000, which transformed the organisation. Both the company's costs and complaints dropped sharply.

The key question about the awards, however, is whether the winners are representative of the UK economy as a whole, or merely islands of excellence in a sea of mediocrity.

Vocational training used to be, with some important exceptions, notoriously weak. There is now general agreement that it has improved significantly, but still not enough. A variety of government initiatives — of which the awards are one of the best known — have helped to create the recognition that properly managed training is a vital ingredient in business success. By providing role models, the NTAs have aimed to both inspire and teach what could be achieved if training were delivered effectively.

This year provides a good opportunity to assess how valuable the awards have been. The event is celebrating its tenth anniversary and changes are afoot which will give it a different look from next year. In particular, there will be no more jamborees on the scale of yesterday's event. Instead, there will be a shift away from London towards the winners at the regional level, with much more effort directed towards the grassroots. The awards will go on but the format will be markedly different.

So is this a signal that, in its present form, NTAs have accomplished the task set for them?

> ‘Britain needs a world-class system of education and training . . .’

Prue Leith: "Encouraging"

Prue Leith is in no doubt that NTAs have contributed much to the switch in mood. As she points out, however, it is impossible to pinpoint their exact contribution. Instead, she describes NTAs as part of a suite of programmes — including Investors in People, the National Targets for Education and Training and the development of opportunities for lifelong learning — which have contributed to an improved commitment of training through large parts of British industry.

Recognition of the business case for training has chimed particularly well with many of the developments in the public sector. The high proportion of public sector organisations among the winners is a tribute to the fact that management has become much tighter and better focused in recent years. Goals are more clearly defined than ever and disciplined training is being used to achieve them.

The Trading Standards Department at Leicestershire County Council, for example, was faced by an increase in workload and a reduction in the number of qualified staff. To deal with this, it set up a training programme for support staff which would relieve the strain on qualified trading standards officers.

A programme was developed with the local college which has enabled the service to reduce its training expenditure while performing to a higher standard. As a result, Leicestershire is now regarded as having one of the most efficient and cost-effective trading standards services in the country.

So award winners have an important story to tell. There still remains a question, however, over how many people want to listen.

CRISPIN RODWELL

Making her mark: a student at St Mary's College, Londonderry, at work on an industrial course that will offer a brighter future

Making the grade twice

Spotlight on selected teams who have won special awards

As well as enjoying the announcement of their National Training Awards, a select group from among the winners also received special awards to mark their success in particularly important aspects of training, *Edward Fennell writes.*

In the past there have always been special awards for entries which have impressed the judges. But this year, marking the tenth anniversary of NTA, there are more awards than ever including, notably, the ten best entries showing commitment to lifetime learning.

This is especially relevant for the 1996 awards, since the whole year was dedicated by the Department for Education and Employment to raising awareness of the importance to lifetime learning.

One impressive story comes from St Mary's College in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, which already has a fine record for achieving the Investors in People (IIP) standard and also for having won two charter marks and a European award of excellence.

The college is set in an area of high unemployment and felt the need to raise aspirations and to give the local community a sense of the value of education.

So rather than just concentrating on the pupils, the school put in place a training programme involving teachers, parents and the support staff. Great strides have now been made and, despite the difficulties in the province, St Mary's offers hope for the future.

One of the gaps normally cited in NTA reviews is for entries from small and medium-sized firms. To raise the profile of this sector, the Confederation of British Industry makes an award for the best small company winner.

This year the award went to Quidnunc, an information technology consultancy based in west London, which has achieved annual growth of 35 per cent in each of the past three years. Such growth can be sustained only through rigorous and extensive training. Quidnunc has set up a programme in which every member of staff takes part and which is seen to contribute directly to the quality of the company's output. Claire Sutton, the firm's business manager, claims that new business is being won by the company directly as a result of its training programme — proof that training pays.

Quidnunc, an IT consultancy

That is also true of all the winners of the special award for IIP. These are especially interesting because, according to Geoff Armstrong, the chairman of the judging panel, the IIP initiative (which stems from the Department for Education and Employment) has inspired many of the entrants to this year's competition.

"IIP is about much more than training — it is about the strategic directions in which an organisation is going," he says. "None the less, it is clear that IIP is having a big impact on the way managers are thinking about their organisations and how they should develop the skills necessary to make it successful."

So under the influence of IIP, many NTA entries show they have been affected by the disciplined, systematic thinking that is central to achieving the IIP standard.

For any organisations setting their sights on achieving an NTA, the IIP initiative is a good place to start.

Not among the special prizewinners but worth a particular mention is Bluemay Ltd, a small plastics manufacturer based in Wiltshire. Bluemay won an award ten years ago in the inaugural event and has won a second NTA this year. Such sustained dedication to training and effective management, especially from a small company, is an object lesson to all.

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

NATIONAL TRAINING AWARDS MCMXCVI

Secretary of State's Award for excellence in modern apprenticeships
The British Narrow Fabric Association Training Club with South Derbyshire TEC and the Knitting Lace and Narrow Fabric Industries Training Resources Agency (KLITRA)

Secretary of State's Award for training benefiting those with special needs
The Workbridge Centre

***The Times* Award for meeting the challenge of international competition**
BBC World Service, with Karsh Consultancy

The CBI Small and Medium Enterprise Council Award for the best entry from a small company
Quidnunc Limited

The Institute for Personnel and Development Award for the provision of training excellence
NEC Semiconductors with Lothian & Edinburgh Enterprise Limited, Seagate Microelectronics Ltd, Motorola Ltd and West Lothian College

The Patron's Award
Ms Joeley Roberts

The ten best entries showing commitment to lifetime learning
Ms Irene M Stevenson
Mr Steve McHale
Ms Joeley Roberts
Case United Kingdom Limited
Hedon Salads Ltd
Eurostar (UK) Ltd
St Mary's College
Croydon Continuing Education and Training Service
Hull College with the Construction Industry Training Board
BBC World Service with Karsh Consultancy

The ten best investors
Goodys Hair Shops
SPS Technologies Ltd
Catherine Johnstone Recruitment
Initial Air Services
The Ormerod Home Trust Ltd
Breckfield JMI School
The Parkway Hotel and Conference Centre
The Uists and Barra Training Programme
Coats Viyella Home Furnishings

Growth: Hedon Salads Ltd

Women of the world

Christopher Warman talks to those in the BBC who helped win *The Times* award

ADRIAN SHERRATT

BBC staff who benefited from the scheme and, below, Laurence Benson and Harriet Karsh

The BBC World Service has an international reputation difficult to better, and it constantly battles to maintain its position in the face of financial constraints and competition. In the midst of a time of change, it has embarked on a remarkable training scheme in partnership with the Karsh Consultancy, which this year has won *The Times* award for meeting the challenge of international competition.

The project was to make the best use of the talent of the female workforce and improve the representation of women in the World Service to match that of other parts of the BBC. Broadcasting has been attractive to women as a career, but although they have joined the service with similar achievements to their male colleagues, they have not developed as fast or as far as the men.

While some of the factors holding back women were common to men, the awards judges perceived that while men were getting a career "head cold", women were suffering career "pneumonia".

The consequence, in the World Service, was that when the programme started in 1994 women at a senior level occupied 5 per cent of the senior positions. Two years later the figure had risen to 40 per cent. At the top senior executive level, the number of women increased from 9 per cent to 30 per cent between 1993 and 1996. This was achieved after Laurence Benson, equal opportunities development officer at the World Service, decided on a sustained women's development initiative and chose the Karsh Consultancy, specialists in leadership development, to design the programme.

With 23 initial candidates, the programme was designed to equip the participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to recognise their own potential as managers and leaders. It included networking seminars and work-based projects, and was intended, in Karsh's plan, to "develop skills in strategic and creative thinking, emotional resilience, assertiveness, interpersonal communication, initiative, developing others, judgment and leadership".

The effect of the programme was not only to increase the representation of women at all levels, but also to challenge attitudes to equal opportunities throughout the organisation.

The judges concluded: "Equal opportunities is now seen as part of the fabric of people's working lives which adds a real business benefit, and not simply as a bolt-on 'feel-good' factor."

Mr Benson commented: "The success of this programme has not just been its effectiveness in increasing the representation of women in the World Service, but also the impact it has had on the individuals who have taken part."

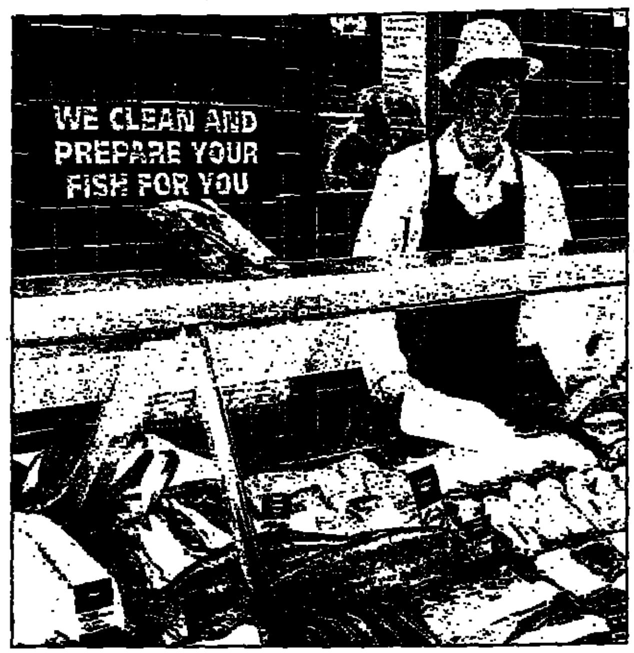
NATIONAL WINNERS

Amateur Swimming Association, Loughborough.
Avril Rowland TV Training, Worcester.
BBC World Service, London.
Beech Hill Country House, Londonderry.
Bloomberg Financial Markets, London.
Bluemay Ltd, Devizes.
BP Chemicals, Port Talbot.
Breckfield JMI School, Liverpool.
British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, Leeds, with Wakefield MDC.
British Gas TransCo, Edinburgh.
Britvic Soft Drinks Ltd, Chelmsford, with **Jenny Jarvis & Associates**
Building Control Service, Belfast.
Business in the Community, Belfast.
Caledonian Engine Services, Prestwick.
Case United Kingdom Ltd, Doncaster.
Catherine Johnstone Recruitment, Croydon, Surrey.
City College, Manchester.
Coats Viyella Home, Co Antrim.
Colne Valley Business, Huddersfield.
Community Enterprise in Strathclyde with SASCA.
Croydon Continuing Education Training Services.
CMS Training Services with **Direct Training Ltd**, Batley.
Derbyshire Careers Services.
Desmond & Sons Ltd, Enniskillen.
Dorothy Perkins Retail Ltd.
Dromona Quality Foods Ltd, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, with **Total Business Improvement Ltd.**
Drumchapel Opportunities Ltd, Glasgow.
Dupont (UK) Ltd, Londonderry.
E & O Laboratories, Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire.
East Ltd, Harrogate.
Easton College, Norwich.
EMAP Newspapers Ltd.
Enron Power Operations, Middlesbrough.
Eurostar (UK) Ltd.
George Eliot Hospital NHS, Nuneaton.
Going Places, Woking.
Goodys Hair Shops, Malton, North Yorkshire.
Hedon Salads Ltd, Nr Brough, North Humberside.
Hereford Hospitals NHS Trust.
High Lea House Residential Home, Oswestry.
Home Housing Association, Newcastle upon Tyne, with **East Training Education & Community and MJ Gleeson Group.**
Hounslow & Spelthorne, Hounslow.
Hull College with **CITB.**
Initial Air Services, Manchester.
John Graham (Dromore), Dromore, Co Down.
John Pimblett and Sons, St Helens, Merseyside.
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough, Liverpool.
Lambeth Healthcare (NHS), Stockwell, London.
Leicestershire County Council, Leicester.
Marsons Solicitors, Bromley, Kent.
Mitchell Fisher, Ayr.
Moyola Precision Engineering, Magherafelt, Co Londonderry.
N.E.C. Semiconductors (UK) Ltd, Livingston, West Lothian, with **Seagate Microelectronics Ltd, Motorola Ltd, West Lothian College** and **Lothian & Edinburgh Enterprise Ltd.**
National Asthma Training Centre, Stratford-upon-Avon.
The National Pharmaceutical Association, St Albans, Hertfordshire, with **de Brus Marketing Services.**
N.I. Social Security Agency, Belfast.
Norfolk County Services, Norwich.
North West Anglia Health Authority, Peterborough.
O'Hara's Bakeries Ltd, Belfast.
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council, Oldham, with **City College**, Manchester.
The Orchardville Society, Belfast.
Ormerod Home Trust Ltd, Lytham St Annes.
The Parkway Hotel, Cwmbran.
The People's Phone Company, Cricklewood, London, with **Keystone Associates.**
Portman Building Society, Bournemouth.
The Prince's Trust Volunteers, Pembroke.
Queen Margaret Hospital NHS, Dunfermline.
Quidnunc Ltd, Hammersmith, London.
Rathbone CI, Manchester.
St Mary's College, Londonderry.
Sasca.
Shepherd Construction Ltd, York.
Southern Electric, Maidenhead, Berkshire.
Specsavers Opticians, Bangor, Co Down.
SPS Technologies Ltd, Leicester.
Strathclyde Buses Ltd.
Tesco Stores, Waltham Cross.
Tower Colliery Ltd, Aberdare.
The Uists & Barra Training Programme, Benbecula, Western Isles.
United Freight Distribution Ltd, Kirkaldy, Fife.
University of Exeter, Domestic Services Division, Exeter.
University of Sheffield, Sheffield.
Wellwise, Wishaw, Lanarkshire.
Widemarsh Workshop, Hereford.
The Willows Residential Care Home, Bourne, Lincolnshire.
The Workbridge Centre, Northampton.
Xeretec Ltd, Wokingham.

What's the secret? **Michael Hatfield** and **Rodney Hobson** reveal the magic ingredients and success stories of the winning teams

Amateur Swimming Association: raising the standards

John Pimblett: staff training acted as a stepping stone



Tesco: display of counter food was made more attractive

Ormerod Home Trust: problem solving led to a pay rise

Eurostar may have experienced flak on the track but its French language-training provision for English train drivers has had a 100 per cent pass rate and earned the company a National Training Award, *Michael Hatfield writes.*

Drivers are put through a 20-week language training programme, divided into modules, in two of which they stay with French families and attend a local college. The end of the course examination is held inside a simulator that mimics the driving situation, and the ability to speak and understand French is tested.

Linguistic proficiency is sometimes matched by impromptu interpretation. Confronted with a simulated deer on the line and not knowing the French word, one driver described the animal as a cow with a pantograph (the train's electric current connector) on its head.

Kiri Shah, Eurostar's language training co-ordinator, says some drivers have been nervous at the start but the enthusiasm had been remarkable. Each driver receives a London Chamber of Commerce and Industry language certificate.

In Norwich the **Easton College Poultry Department** is working with the poultry industry to devise training courses for new recruits and existing employers.

In recent years the industry has experienced a growing shortage of both labour and skills . Bruce Hemmant, the human resource manager at Bernard Matthews, says: "Easton College has worked closely with the poultry industry to help us recruit dedicated, ambitious trainees. It has also helped us to provide training which reflects the needs of our expanding and increasingly technical industry."

Another training provider to receive an award is the **Amateur Swimming Association** (ASA), which has retrained its tutors to raise the standards of teaching of swimming and associated sports in England. The tutors pass on their skills to teachers and coaches, of whom around 20,000 have qualified since the introduction of the higher standards.

The training challenge for the ASA was that a new education training programme was needed to cater for the sport's changing needs and to incorporate NVQs into the framework of professional qualifications offered.

In all, more than 700 tutors were retrained to deliver the new courses. Smaller groups of tutors were also retrained to deliver the education programme to other levels and to assess for NVQ Levels 2, 3 and 4. ASA tutors have benefited professionally and commercially.

Bluemay Ltd, manufacturer of plastic components and based in Devises, Wiltshire, decided on a training programme to prepare its 70 staff for a period of radical change and restructuring of the company. The company was planning to spend £1 million on factory relocation and new moulding machines.

The main thrust of the training was to build the commitment and skills of staff to make the planned changes successful. Martin Morman, a director of the family firm, says it was important to maintain the family atmosphere and caring ethic of the organisation, and at the same time developing skills.

The courses cover areas from time management to assertiveness skills, sales training and getting the most out of others. The Industrial Society has cited Bluemay as a case study of good practice.

An innovative training programme for teachers and support staff has cut truancy levels at **Breckfield JMI School**, Liverpool. Though the school has a good record helping children to achieve the highest standards, it had, like many inner-city schools, a problem with a minority of misbehaving and truanting pupils.

Breckfield tackled the problem by making behaviour management a priority. The training included teachers and support staff. Now pupil attendance rates exceed 90 per cent. The success of the scheme has led the Department for Education and Employment to fund it for three years — and the school has become the first in Liverpool to be awarded Investors in People status.

The cost of recruiting and assessing a new foster carer is around £2,000, so that when the Children Act called for changes in that task, the challenge of training carers became increasingly important. The Leeds office of the **British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering** (BAAF) and **Wakefield Metropolitan District Council** combined to provide an innovative training programme for foster carers, breaking new ground by linking training to the new National Vocational Qualification for foster carers.

In the first three years of the initiative, a total of 167 carers attended the courses. Felicity Collier, BAAF's director, says: "Our work with Wakefield has been unique in helping to prepare foster parents to care for very challenging children with love, sensitivity and skill."

A new training programme devised by womenswear retailer **Dorothy Perkins Retailer Ltd** has contributed to a significant 9.5 per cent increase in sales. The company has recently trained its 540 branch managers to operate as managing directors of their own stores. The training involved a complete overhaul of the way the company operated, and Dorothy Perkins designed its own training package to equip their managers with the necessary skills.

The result has been that managers feel confident, involved and inspired. Sue Farrel, Swindon branch manger, says: "I feel so much more involved in the business and, by having a greater understanding, I am in a much better position to contribute to our future success."

Nationwide travel agents **Going Places**, based at Woking, Surrey, has dramatically reduced its recruitment turnover and ensured staff reach high industry skills levels by developing a training course. With a total staff of more than 4,500 working in 700 shops, the company needed to build up shop teams, cut its 51 per cent turnover of recruits and help staff contribute to their own shop's increase in business.

It launched an intensive 12-month course for new youth trainee recruits, which was attended by almost 300 in the first year. Much of the course focused on building sales skills and the knowledge and experience required to identify and meet customers' needs. Of the 293 participants, 257 are now fully employed by the company and 82 per cent achieved an NVQ. Staff turnover has been reduced by nearly 12 per cent.

Anne Howes, the company's training manager, says: "We invested a lot of time and resources into developing this scheme. The end result has been a resounding success."

Soon after Lindsay Burr opened the first of her **Goodys Hair Salons** in Norton, North Yorkshire, in 1979, she recognised the need to implement a staff training programme to increase turnover and individual staff profitability and ensure the highest level of client satisfaction.

So successful was the programme that productivity by each staff member has risen from 60 to 95 per cent. There are now five Goodys salons in the Norton area and in 1995 the company was recognised as an Investor in People.

Dorothy Perkins: staff training has increased store sales

Commitment to a Total Quality Management (TQM) approach to staff training has led to **High Lea House Residential Home** in Oswestry, Shropshire, being recognised as one of the most desirable residential homes in its local area and has resulted in it achieving Investors in People status.

Seven staff have learnt new therapeutic skills, 14 are now qualified in first aid, four have qualified as vocational assessors and one gained NVQ Level 5 in management.

In the North East, three companies — **Home Housing Association**, a provider of rented accommodation, **East Training Education and Community** (ETEC), a training provider, and **M.J. Gleeson Group**, a civil engineering company — joined forces to help job-seekers and 39 have found work.

The partnership has been involved in rebuilding a series of four-storey blocks of flats in Sunderland, and many of the trainees have succeeded in achieving Levels 1 and 2 in areas such as bricklaying, joinery and painting and decorating.

The training initiative started with the compilation of a register of local people wanting to develop their skills and enter the workforce. From this 85 job-seekers were invited to take part in a building-skills induction course. They received on-site work experience and, if they proved capable, Gleeson employed and paid them.

Hedon Salads Ltd, a grower and distributor of salad produce, based on Humberside, won a national award as a company and one of its staff, Lynne Hockney, 32, collected an individual award. Tom Salmon, managing director, says: "We are building commercial success by empowering our people. The result is a £16 million-turnover company employing 210."

The dramatic improvement that training can have on staff turnover and morale has been amply demonstrated at **Norfolk County Council**, *Rodney Hobson writes.*

At the end of the Eighties, staff turnover was reaching critical levels in the cleaning division of Norfolk County Services, the council's service arm that provides cleaning, catering and grounds service under compulsory competitive tendering.

Management time and effort was wasted in filling vacancies. When the company asked departing staff why they were going, low pay was not high on the list of reasons.

Patricia Fuller, personnel manager, says: "The problem was that staff wanted to be trained to do the job, wanted to feel a sense of belonging to an organisation and wanted to be valued. Training was implemented and succeeded in stemming the flow of staff."

All new and existing manual staff were trained by their managers in regular sessions over a six-month period. The result was a £41,000 annual saving in the cost of recruitment advertising.

The deaths of the managing director and another senior director brought an abrupt end to an era at a Merseyside family-owned bakery. The company, established in 1921, passed into the hands of the third generation of the family.

A new management team, installed in 1990 at **John Pimblett and Sons** at St Helens, ran into problems and it was clear that the company had to reconsider its position in the marketplace.

The 13 retail outlets were the subject of an initiative designed to increase gross profit margins and encourage customers to spend more. Groups of 30 attended two four-hour seminars, held in the relaxed atmosphere of a local hotel. Workers' comments formed the basis of a booklet giving guidance on attitude, behaviour and appearance. Intensive on-the-job training continued for six months under a team leader. Some staff members have since won promotion.

Lin Pimblett, marketing co-ordinator, says: "The training programme has acted as a stepping stone by strengthening our determination to succeed and showing us what is possible. We plan to invest £2 million in a new purpose-built bakery and extend the training programme to bakery staff."

The introduction of fish counters to a **Tesco** store in 1991 did not prove as successful as management had hoped. Sales showed only a small increase and when Tesco asked customers why they were not using the counter they said the display was not inviting and staff did not know much about the fish.

The solution was to display the fish so that colours and textures were used to make presentation more attractive and to hold tasting sessions of exotic fish so staff could talk to customers about them with authority.

Gloria Turpin, training manager, says: "Staff now believe that the fish department is an exciting and innovative place to work. Staff on the fish counter are now considered to be specialists."

The Ormerod Home Trust, in Lancashire, which provides residential care and day support services for 50 adults with learning difficulties, is now committed to continuous training. The turning point came in 1993 when the charity was heavily criticised in a report by Lancashire County Social Services Department. The report called for a major change in the quality of service and the way it was delivered.

Training began by getting the 65 staff together to give the trust a new sense of direction. Jim Corley, who was appointed personnel and development manager in 1994 as a direct result, says: "Everyone was asked to offer solutions to existing problems. All views were accepted and some were implemented immediately."

Once immediate needs had been met, team building was introduced. Over three months, small groups led by line managers were released from their duties for a day of solving problems. All personnel now have a fully trained management structure to support their suggestions for improving the service. Apart from enjoying work more, they have a financial reward — wages are up 31 per cent since the changes were introduced.

A series of training projects for young people in the North West has brought a National Training Award for **Rathbone CI**, a charitable organisation. Of the 100 young people completing projects in June 1995, 81 went on to further education, training or employment or achieved qualifications.

The early retirement of 500 engineering staff after privatisation meant that **Southern Electric** had to replace the skills it was losing without increasing manpower.

A training programme has produced a more flexible workforce and a reduction of £11 million on the payroll. Southern, which sells electricity to 2.6 million homes and businesses in central southern England, gave experienced engineering staff a refresher course so that they could act as trainers for 400 staff, who each undertook 300 hours of study plus on-the-job training over a year.

A Japanese production method helped **SPS Technologies** to turn a £26,000 investment in training into a £100,000 saving. Instead of having one long production line, the workforce at SPS, which makes fasteners for the civil and military aerospace industry, is now split into teams with a variety of skills, that are responsible for the whole manufacturing process.

The "cell" technique training programme has raised quality standards, and halved the amount of scrap and reworking. Sales per employee are up 40 per cent.

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council Housing Department has won an award for training staff to meet the needs of minority races. Abdul Ravat, research officer, says: "The department is now providing a better service for Bangladeshi and Pakistani families and is increasingly seen as an example of good practice in ethnic monitoring by the Commission for Racial Equality."

The population of Oldham is 220,000 and the housing department manages almost 21,000 properties. The department undertook a series of courses to train councillors and staff on the Race Relations Act. Trainees were encouraged to discuss their concerns openly and frankly, resulting in a revision of recruitment procedures and policies on racial harassment.

Widemarsh Workshop at Hereford provides vocational training in catering skills for adults with varying degrees of disability. Funded by Hereford and Worcester County Council with the European Social Fund, it helps trainees to compete in the marketplace by acquiring skills and qualifications and to meet the requirements of legislation such as the Food Act.

Each individual needs a tailor-made training programme and personal attention, and work placements help the students to find their place in the community.

Help for people with mental health needs, including learning disabilities, is provided at the **Workbridge Centre** in Northampton. The centre has been in existence since 1980 but its financial security was boosted in 1993 by an investment from St Andrew's, a private charitable psychiatric hospital.

To make the most of the opportunity, the centre's staff was trained to extend the range of services by opening an office skills workshop.

"Training in our industry is sadly lacking," says Laurence Holt, chairman of **Quidnunc**, an information technology consultancy. "The big companies hire music graduates and teach them outdated methods."

He is a long-time campaigner for higher standards and more disclosure in the information technology industry. Quidnunc hires computer graduates and arms them with techniques that are a blend of best practice theory and on-the-job experience over a number of years.

"We do radical things like giving everyone a credit card and telling them to buy any book they think will be useful," Mr Holt says. "The real prize is lower staff turnover than the rest of the industry and high customer satisfaction. We are doubling in size every other year and constantly taking on new technologies."

Southern Electric: trained a more flexible workforce

GREENWICH

NATIONAL TRAINING AWARD MCMXCVI

1995

QUALITY SCOTLAND

Greenwich Caledonian is delighted to add the National Training Award for 1996 to its growing list of achievements.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

National Training Awards host Gillian Shephard tells **Edward Fennell** about the culture of creativity through education and training

Harvesting the rich rewards of our labours

Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, is a fan of the National Training Awards. "Providing role models is a much better means of getting messages across than lecturing people," she says. — not least because of the media coverage the awards attract."

As an example of success through training, Mrs Shephard singles out Hedon Salads of Hull, whose new management succeeded in making a failed business highly profitable.

Hedon's revival was based on a training programme focused on National Vocational Qualifications. The previous management, by contrast, had paid no attention to training.

Similarly, Mrs Shephard cites impressive individuals such as Ms Joeley Roberts of Liverpool City Council, who won her award for the way in which she pursued a career and qualifications in construction while also being her family's main breadwinner.

What unites Hedon Salads and Ms Roberts, Mrs Shephard notes, is that both have taken full advantage of the available training facilities and mechanisms. She says: "The Government's role is to provide the infrastructure for the national training system, but individuals and organisations must then take responsibility for using it."

This view has been the consistent Conservative position since the mid-Eighties when Lord Young presided, first at the old Manpower Services Commission, then at the Employment Department. He emphasised that more priority had to be given to training and vocational education. Mrs Shephard represents the culmination of the process started by Lord Young. As the first Secretary of State to combine the areas of both education and employment, she sends out the message that education is a preparation for employment; employment and training should be a continuation of education.

The consultative paper *Lifetime Learning*, published recently by the Department of Education and Employment (DfEE), comments: "Creating a culture of lifetime learning is crucial to sustaining and maintaining our international competitiveness. Technological change will dominate the working lifetimes of those now in work and we must be in a position to adapt. At the individual level, our personal competitiveness will have a major effect on our prosperity."

One key result of this has been to extend concern for training beyond the young. In many cases, the word "training" has been replaced by "learning" — and learning is for everyone. Mrs Shephard sees this new philosophy bearing fruit, for example, in the way that the education system has become much more responsive to industry. Even university vice-chancellors now talk to their local industries.

"There is," Mrs Shephard says, "a new culture about, which is much envied by our counterparts in the European Community. I am now inundated by requests for interviews with foreign journalists — including from Germany — asking how we in Britain have managed to achieve these changes. Other countries would love to emulate us."

> ‘In Britain we have *managed to achieve* changes other countries would love to emulate’

She points out that the changes are marked not just by educationists taking more interest in industry; those outside education are also keen to become involved in learning. In her constituency, for example, what is known as the Thetford Learning Curve has recently brought together all sides of the community — and not just educationists — to create a local network in which learning is made accessible to all.

One field in which there have been persistent problems, however, is youth training, where a succession of programmes — stretching right back to the Youth Opportunities Programme of the Seventies — have, in general, failed to win credibility either among employers or young people.

The establishment of the Modern Apprenticeship system in 1995 has gone some way towards meeting criticism that there was a vacuum in high-quality vocational training. Even so, a lot depends on the proposed launch this September of the new National Traineeships, which aim to offer training to those with modest educational attainments.

The general election will determine whether Mrs Shephard is still at the the Department for Education and Employment to observe the lift-off of National Traineeships. But maybe the underlying problem, which she or her successor (of either party) may find hard to counter, is that, as recent surveys suggest, the British people still lack, recent surveys suggest, a real commitment to be well-educated.

Persuading people to change their indifference to learning is likely to be the key question for politicians, of whatever colour, who occupy the post of Secretary of State for Education and Employment in the next century.

Gillian Shephard says the NTA scheme undoubtedly works

Why we all need the right kind of support

Judging National Training Awards has become an annual date in the calendar for John Hougham of Acas, the veteran chairman of the individual awards panel, *Edward Fennell writes*. But rather than seeing it as a chore he continues to be excited about the candidates he meets.

"In most cases it is a privilege to meet these people who often display astonishing personal qualities and have frequently had to overcome considerable odds to achieve their success," he says. "The stories they have to tell are impressive and we often end the judging process feeling awed by those we have seen."

This year there are 17 individual award winners. Mr Hougham feels he is now well positioned to judge some of the prerequisites for success. "From the individual point of view I think what really matters is partnership," he says. "Our winners are often exceptional people, but even they have mostly achieved their progress through partnership with others.

"Whether that be a spouse, a supportive employer, a trainer or a parent will depend on the individual circumstances, but rarely does change take place unaided."

The power of training, according to Mr Hougham, is that it can often transform people who start off with low self-esteem into those who bubble with confidence.

"As a result of having to contend with difficult conditions, these people have often emerged as more rounded characters. This can result in their lives being transformed as well. By being successful at work they achieve the confidence to be more active outside it. Their energy is sometimes astonishing."

This point was emphasised by Prue Leith, patron of this year's awards, who believes passionately in the need to release the great potential which is locked up in most individuals. To free that potential is the great challenge.

"Work is an important part of life for most of us," she says. "The more we can grow at work and acquire new skills and responsibilities through training, the fuller we become as people and the more interesting lives we can lead. Training can be an enriching process for us in wider ways than just work."

This approach is central to the awards. As Mr Hougham points out, what the NTA judges are interested in is "the distance covered". The bright young man who starts off with a double first from Oxbridge and an entrée to a merchant bank is unlikely to be the winner of an NTA award. But the person who has failed at school and found himself (or herself) in a dead end job is at a much better starting point. The need to get out of that dead end job is one of those critical points in one's life at which, Mr Hougham believes, the future is cast. Accept the circumstances and nothing will ensue. Start planning how to escape and you are on the right track. "Finding the right kind of support at critical times is so vital. Those who are really successful also have the luck to get help when they need it most," he says.

Ensuring that there are facilities and assistance available to help individuals is, perhaps, one of the crucial roles for Training and Enterprise Councils (and LECs, their equivalent in Scotland).

Geoff Armstrong, the director-general of the Institute of Personnel and Development and chair of the corporate panel for NTAs, says: "What I am particularly pleased to see, through the National Training Awards, is the increasing closeness of co-operation between training providers and employers in building effective training programmes."

In charge: John Hougham

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Mrs Cherry Dickson, Magherafelt, Londonderry.
Mr Joseph Edwards, Belfast.
Mrs Sylvia Forster, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.
Ms Camilla Hall and Ms Margaret Easton, Elgin, Moray.
Mrs Lynne Hockney, Hull.
Mr Phillip Jackson, Nottingham.
Dr Charles Jowah, Portlethen, Aberdeenshire.
Mrs Kathleen Logue, Cloghan, Co Donegal.
Mr Steve McHale, Normanton, West Yorkshire.
Mr Stephen Martin, Liversedge, West Yorkshire.
Ms Ruby Morgan, Lewisham, London.
Ms Sarah Rai, Derby.
Mr Stephen Raven, Wrexham.
Ms Joeley Roberts, Liverpool.
Miss Penny Rushen, Brierley Hill, West Midlands.
Ms Irene Stevenson, Sheffield.
Mr Clive Tabiner, Leicester.

NATIONAL TRAINING AWARDS MCMXCVI

Winning a National Training Award means prestige, better recruits, publicity and a certain amount of quiet satisfaction.
CBI
THE TIMES
the Institute of Management
NATIONAL TRAINING AWARDS
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Department for Education and Employment

If you'd like to bask in the glory of winning a 1997 National Training Award, contact your local TEC/LEC in England and Scotland, the National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQs) in Wales and the Training and Employment Agency in Northern Ireland. You'll find their numbers in your local telephone directory right next to your competitors.

Training has motivated employees and helped to move companies from near disaster to prosperity throughout the British Isles

Safety, profits and helping youngsters

WALES

Increased productivity, motivation, safety and profitability are among the benefits of training, according to the Welsh winners of the National Training Awards, *Iola Smith writes.*

At **Tower Colliery** in the Cynon Valley, South Wales, the priority is safety. "If we can't produce coal safely, we don't produce it," Gary O'Brien, the training officer, says.

The pit was judged unviable by British Coal and was closed. But in 1994 the miners bought it and it became Europe's first worker-owned colliery. Tower then became the first colliery in Britain to become an NVQ examination centre, with 190 miners enrolling for a course to brush up on their skills.

All achieved NVQ standards and training is now directed towards new staff. For the first time in 15 years young people have been recruited to the mining industry in Wales. Tower's accident absenteeism rate has been reduced substantially since the buy-out, with a £500,000 saving on insurance.

BP Chemicals in Port Talbot decided in 1992 to structure its maintenance staff into multiskilled teams under a training scheme for which 295 people enrolled. Focusing on both classroom tuition and practical projects, it ensured that trainees were able to undertake the tasks expected.

"Some staff went on to obtain NVQs under the Chemical Industry Association programme that we are piloting," Clive John, the training officer says. "The remainder are thoroughly trained and now spend two periods a year undergoing either refresher courses or learning new skills." The course has resulted in fewer equipment breakdowns and increased productivity.

The other two winners in Wales, **Parkway Hotel**, Cwmbran, and the **Princes Trust Volunteers** are from the service sector. For Parkway, seeking AA four-star accreditation gave them the impetus to develop a training programme in 1994.

The course, which 90 staff joined, was customised to meet the needs of each department. According to Lisa Jay, general manager of the 70-bed hotel, the result was a significant improvement in standards and customer service. There were 61 per cent fewer complaints and a 27 per cent reduction in staff turnover.

The Prince's Trust Volunteers seeks to encourage young people between 16 and 25 into employment or further training by boosting their confidence and decision-making powers. The Pembrokeshire branch trains 135 people a year towards a City and Guilds qualification and a Profile of Achievement. In 1995, 34 per cent then found employment.

SIMON TOWNSLEY

Miners at Tower Colliery show their elation after buying it from British Coal

Greenwich Caledonian is now a leader in the aero-engine repair sector

Greater skills and better methods

SCOTLAND

Increased company profits and local environmental improvements are just two of the positive effects from Scottish training initiatives, *Victoria Walker writes.*

After its training programme resulted in rapid growth, the haulage firm United Freight Distribution Ltd enlarged its fleet from 28 to 40 trucks and made an annual saving of £64,000 in fuel costs.

Drivers receive tuition in their legal responsibilities and managing time and are trained in heavy-goods vehicle driving, deliveries and geography. Elizabeth MacDonald, Human Resource Manager, says: "We are now considering a training resource centre which will include materials on CD-ROM, videos and other open-learning packages."

Drumchapel Opportunities Ltd and Strathclyde Buses Ltd become National Training Award joint winners. Responding to the bus company's difficulty in recruiting drivers who held a passenger carrying vehicle (PCV) licence, Drumchapel Opportunities, a Glasgow charity, set up a project funded by the Glasgow Development Agency. It targets the long-term unemployed and offers a job for successful candidates. So far, 161 recruits have joined Strathclyde Buses.

The Uists and Barra Training Programme is attempting to improve the prosperity of the Outer Hebridean islands. The initiative, started in 1993, offers 16 S/NVQs, ranging from tourism to childcare. To date, 108 people have attained a qualification.

Greenwich Caledonian has emerged as a leader in the aero-engine repair sector. A training programme developed to cut down costs and improve efficiency has resulted in a 25 per cent increase in sales. Team leaders and process managers were recruited to assist in teaching new skills and operational methods.

NTA winner, Wellwise, (formerly WiseStart) was started in Lanarkshire in 1992 to teach construction industry skills to the long-term unemployed. Trainees have a 52-week contract and are paid a wage, receiving training and assessment up to a level 2 Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ). They also work on building projects. About 70 per cent of them have found full-time employment.

To alleviate the number of hours junior doctors work, the Queen Margaret Hospital NHS Trust decided some of the nursing staff could take over responsibility for routine tasks. Six medical support nurses underwent a ten-day training programme. Not only has this benefited the wards, it has also opened up new career possibilities and resulted in a national recognised qualification, the Diploma in Professional Studies 2.

Bakery hits right recipe for success

NORTHERN IRELAND

Disaster was looming for **O'Hara's Bakeries** in the early Nineties, says Maria Herron, marketing co-ordinator. It had problems with industrial relations and had to move to a new factory in Belfast to comply with environmental health regulations, *Amanda Loose writes.*

"We all had to pull together and decided the best way was to change the culture of the factory and improve communications. We started quarterly meetings where the managing director explains changes to the 328 staff," Ms Herron says.

"We also needed to improve efficiency and to comply with EC hygiene directives, so we introduced training in bakery techniques and have an in-house hygiene expert to train staff. Now 12 of the factory staff are doing a Scottish NVQ in craft bakery, while 11 managers of our 36 shops are doing NVQs in retailing."

St Mary's College in Londonderry also emphasises the importance of qualifications for life. An all-girls school with 1,000 pupils aged from 11 to 18 and a staff of 86, it began a training programme in 1990 for teachers, parents and support staff.

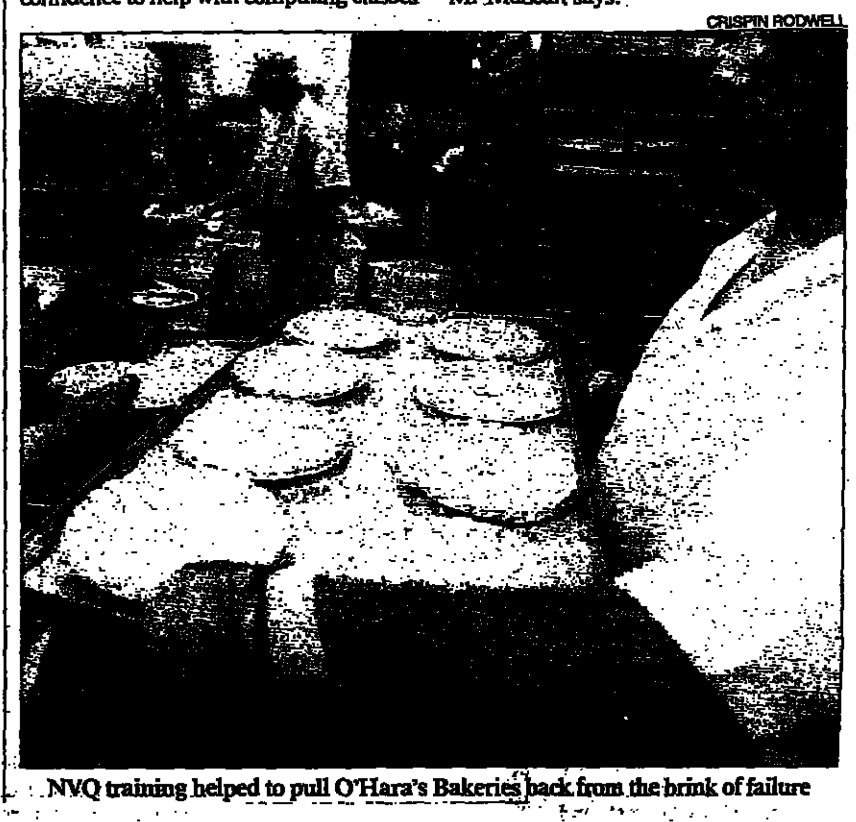
Geraldine Keegan, the headteacher, says: "We wanted to break the circle of low skills and unemployment in the area, and to involve the community in the school's development. Parent teaching assistants asked us for training to give them confidence to help with computing classes and so on. Now about 90 people are being trained, including staff."

The Orchardville Society in Belfast was founded by parents in 1987 to provide vocational training for adults with severe learning difficulties. The Orchardville Business Centre opened in 1994 so trainees could receive computer and office training in an office environment. Trainees have the opportunity to gain RSA and NVQ qualifications and work experience in the public and private sectors.

Alan Thomson, from the award-winning business centre, says: "The trainees provide a desktop publishing service for about 20 regular customers, which goes some way to supporting the centre. It is also funded by several other organisations. The scheme is a stepping stone, reflecting a real change in attitudes to people with learning difficulties. They now have a chance to prove what they can do and how adaptable they are to new technology."

Barry McLean is campaign manager of **Business in the Community**, a programme which teaches the skills of the private sector to voluntary organisations. "We started 2½ years ago in response to demands from the voluntary sector for business expertise and wider experience," Mr McLean says.

CRISPIN RODWELL



NVQ training helped to pull O'Hara's Bakeries back from the brink of failure

ROS DRINKWATER ON THE 18 INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE JUDGED WINNERS

Bridging the gap between earning a living and enjoying the fruits of a worthwhile career is the achievement of this year's individual winners of the National Training Awards, 11 women and seven men, who demonstrate the rewards of commitment to training.

Cherry Dickson describes her most pleasurable experience as "witnessing women reach their full potential in education and employment, having overcome many barriers on the way." After 20 years as a farmer's wife and mother of four, Mrs Dickson decided to spend a year training and accepted the post of women's officer at her local Action for Community Employment project.

To date her qualifications include an RSA Stage 1 in computing, a certificate in counselling and a diploma in community development practice. She is now a respected community leader helping other women to run community-based groups, applying her skills to the everyday problems facing people in Northern Ireland.

In 1991 when wife and mother **Lynne Hockney** took an evening class in car maintenance in an effort to help her husband's taxi cab business she had no idea of the impact it would have on her life. Working for Hedon Salads, in a traditionally male-dominated industry, her prospects for promotion were slim, but the evening class whetted her appetite for further advancement.

She embarked on a series of training courses including health and safety, food hygiene, first aid and an NVQ Level 2 in Intensive Crop Production. In 1994 she was appointed Glasshouse Foreman and within a year her block had become top producer on the nursery.

Kathleen Logue was a machinist who achieved high standards of output and quality. This was the springboard that set her on a career path that would lead from shop floor to senior management.

Recognising her own potential, she applied for the position of training instructor, a job that became the key to her success. Today her leadership qualities are highly respected.

As general manager with Naturelle Consumer Products, Mrs Logue has helped the company to gain ISO 9002 accreditation and a certification mark for the industrial coverage range of products. The local community has benefited through her creation of jobs and the introduction of men into traditionally female occupations.

When he left school at 18 **Philip Jackson** was an underachiever with a speech impediment. Today he is an accomplished public speaker with a demanding position as a nursing-home consultant responsible for training 80 employees. He has set up NVQ assessment centres in retail and hairdressing. Sixty per cent of his staff have achieved, or are working towards, an NVQ in Care and he is steering the group towards an Investors in People Award. Mr Jackson's goal has been constant, to develop his own skills to enable him to help others to realise their potential.

"To see individuals gain in confidence and self-esteem is a joy, and to be involved as they develop and progress is wonderful," he says. "It allows me to repay the people who have faith in me."

Sylvia Forster had to abandon her academic ambitions early on in order to help support her widowed mother. Only when her own children began school did embark on her nursing career, working as a part-time nursing auxiliary.

She then trained as a State Enrolled Nurse specialising in care for the elderly and after five years moved to the private sector as a residential care manager.

Further training in management skills enabled her to convert to Registered General Nurse and five months after qualifying she was appointed matron of the Springchoice Care Coppins Nursing Home. She then studied for an HNC in Social Care, took an NVQ assessor course and qualified for D32 and D33.

She was then able to start NVQ training with her staff, and in addition to her responsibilities as matron, now teaches NVQ standards part-time at her local college.

"Theoretical knowledge dovetailing with vocational and practical skills is the key to success in business," says **Stephen Raven**, summing up his business philosophy. He owns ASSIST Creative Resources, a multimedia communications business, with a growing list of prestigious corporate clients.

Mr Raven attributes his success to his commitment to education and training. He left school with poor English skills, but despite this he gained a degree in physical education, a postgraduate certificate in education and became a lecturer in physical education.

Along the path from education to business Mr Raven taught himself multimedia authoring, desktop publishing and graphic design skills and gained an Open University MA by obtaining the NVQ assessor qualification D32 and D33.

In 1992 he set up his own company, and in 1994 ASSIST Health and Fitness won an NTA. It was the launch pad for the formation of his present company.

Despite having to care for her younger sister and disabled father, **Joeley Roberts** left school with six GCSE passes. She applied for a job as an apprentice in all trades at Liverpool City Council and was employed as an apprentice carpenter and joiner on a three-year, college-based course. She thrived in the job, achieving NVQ Levels 1, 2 and 3 in carpentry and joinery. In 1993, with her eye on a position in management, she began studies for an Ordinary National Certificate in Building Construction and will complete her training this year.

NATIONAL
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It was an evening class in A-level history that set hospital porter **Steve McHale** on a path to continuous learning. Not only did the class boost his confidence, it transformed his career aspirations.

Mr McHale enrolled on the Registered Mental Nurse training course at Wakefield College, gained a teaching qualification and went on to study for a BA (Hons) Degree in Combined Studies. He feels his training has brought him enormous personal benefits.

"The degree broadened my thinking and deepened my analytical skills," he says. "It also taught me research techniques that are more important in nursing."

From childhood **Penny Rushen's** ambition was to work as a cook. After her first job as cook to an Admiral, she spent four years in the Army and worked as a Post Office catering manager.

Having joined Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council Catering Services as a trainee manager, she studied for the Institute of Personnel Development qualification and today, as general manager, runs a business with a turnover in excess of £5 million, overseeing 700 staff who provide 20,000 meals every day.

Ms Rushen's efforts have saved the company more than £30,000 with no interruption to service or quality and she has also contributed to Dudley MBC being recognised as an Investor in People.

In eight years **Joseph Edwards** has progressed from a job as a labourer with Dorma Old Bleach factory of Randalstown, County Antrim, to playing a pivotal role in the success of the company.

Today, he is responsible for the training and development of 240 people. Taking at least two courses a year, Mr Edwards has qualified in planning, finance, personal computing, programme design and as an adult literacy tutor. He has gained a professional diploma in management and is well on his way to a Master of Science degree.

It was with the goal of becoming a teacher that **Charles Juwah** graduated from Nigeria's University of Maiduguri with a degree in Agricultural Science. Now a science course leader at Aberdeen College, he has an impressive list of qualifications including a Bachelor's and a Master's degree and a doctorate.

Dr Juwah is wholly committed to the principal of continuous development. "I have become more aware of the need for lifetime learning," he says, "and the requirement to keep abreast of new knowledge and changes in my professional practices."

In 15 years **Sarah Rai** has progressed from her general nurse training to a managerial position and is consultant nurse of three nursing and residential care homes. As a result of her vision and commitment, Rushcliff Nursing Home won a Business Enterprise Award in 1992.

Feeling that his career options were limited by his lack of qualifications, **Clive Tabiner** enrolled on a three-year HND course in Rural Resource Management with the aim of working towards a career in countryside, leisure and tourism. "It was at Seale Hayne College in Devon that I really learnt to read books and journals effectively," he says.

Soon after leaving college he became assistant farm manager at Farmworld near Leicester and in 1992 was promoted to the position of farm manager. Aware of the need to deliver top quality customer service, Mr Tabiner decided that the Investors in People programme was ideal to develop his small staff team.

A sufferer from ME for five years, **Irene Stevenson** has nevertheless achieved her ambition of a BSc Degree and a teaching post in further education. In addition, she has taken an HNC in computer studies, a postgraduate diploma in management studies and is working towards an MBA and a certificate in education.

Made redundant in 1994, she took work as a part-time lecturer at Sheffield Hallam Unniversity and in 1995 was offered her present full-time position at Dearne Valley College. A bonus is that her job involves working with people made redundant due to the closure of the mining industry in the region. "Helping them towards new jobs is immensely rewarding," she says.

In his 18 years with Interface Europe Ltd., **Stephen Martin** has risen to a management role with responsibility for health and safety, technical and management services, plus quality and environmental matters.

His steady career progression has been underpinned by gaining a Master's degree in management, a remarkable achievement for someone whose school career lacked distinction. Several of Mr Martin's many qualifications have been translated into business initiatives in which he has worked with colleagues to gain commitment to a new system or policy.

After a series of temporary jobs **Ruby Morgan** realised that the positions that suited her best were those which involved contact with the public. As housing assistant with the London Borough of Lewisham she attended in-house vocational training courses and had two promotions in rapid succession.

Her next step was to attend a four-year, day release placement, gaining both the BTEC National Certificate and the Higher National Certificate in housing studies.

In 1994 when Lewisham introduced NVQs, Ms Morgan trained as an assessor and in 1996 qualified for the role of internal verifier within the council. Among her achievements is her development of a quality customer services programme.

Camilla Hall and **Margaret Easton**, who share a joint award, are both experienced nurses, working in psycho-geriatric care and within the field of long-stay care of the elderly for Moray Health Services Trust. They believed that some of the falls suffered by the patients could be prevented, and trained themselves in clinical audit techniques by taking an open learning course through the University of Dundee.

Thus armed, they devised a fall prevention policy involving alarm systems, concentrating staff levels at high risk times and identifying high risk patients. The result was a drop in the number of falls in the study ward from 21 to six for an equivalent period, and the two nurses have now disseminated their findings to a worldwide audience.

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The Trust is a social care provider to adults who have learning disabilities. The last two years have centred around major change and our training and development strategy has been crucial to the process. Winning the National Training Award has validated our success. We are thrilled to have our excellence recognised at Regional and National level.

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INVESTOR IN PEO

■ FILM 1

The Prince and I: Branagh stays faithful to the text, but swamps *Hamlet* in gloss and stars

■ FILM 2

Fierce Creatures reunites the cast of *A Fish Called Wanda* for a broad farce set in a zoo

THE TIMES ARTS

■ FILM 3

Attenborough's charming but dull *In Love and War* tells the story of Hemingway's wartime romance

■ FILM 4

Steve Buscemi turns director to take a wry look at small-town America in *Trees Lounge*

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** stands back as Branagh unleashes his all-star, full-length *Hamlet* at modern groundlings

Ken's lust action hero

"It is more of a piece than any other of his Shakespeare forays": Kenneth Branagh with Kate Winslet in his occasionally exhausting *Hamlet*

Tomorrow, St Valentine's Day, brings us songs of love from the likes of Richard Attenborough and *The Brothers McMullen's* Edward Burns. There are also new films from Kenneth Branagh and John Cleese. Who said love was dead? Who said British cinema was dead? Who, indeed, said Shakespeare was dead?

Branagh does not think so, although the most striking aspect of his plush, four-hour **Hamlet** is the effort he makes to convince young audiences that the Bard is worth the popcorn, the slurpy drink, and the other accoutrements of a night at the movies in 1997.

As adapter and director, Branagh seems terrified that the Elizabethan language might sail over heads. Every line — and this is the complete play — is enunciated with the kind of clarity suited to people hard of hearing. And if the text offers a chance for an illustrative glimpse or flashback, Branagh leaps in. So here are Hamlet and Ophelia (Branagh and Kate Winslet) making love; over there, young Ham makes merry with Yorick (Ken Dodd, very daft) and Ophelia paces her padded cell. It's all rather exhausting.

Branagh also plumps for massive visual decoration. He shoots in 70mm, each image crisp as frost on a windowpane. He shifts the play to the late 19th century, when pomp still held sway, monarchies still ruled, and characters could wear a dazzling wardrobe of checkered jackets, brocade and gold tassels. Elsinore is recreated as a vast and brooding winter palace. The exterior is actually Blenheim, dressed in tons of artificial snow; the interior State Hall is a black-and-white chessboard ringed by galleries, stairways and balustrades. It could almost be the set for an MGM musical.

The casting, too, is meant to dazzle. The chief parts may be in stalwart hands (Derek Jacobi as Claudius, Richard Briers as Polonius, Julie Christie as Gertrude), but the smaller parts are enlivened or ruined by all manner of men. Robin Williams makes something out of the courtier Osric; Billy Crystal, the First Gravedigger, passes muster; while Gérard Depardieu, Polonius's servant Reynaldo, gives cause for titters.

And what of Branagh himself, pacing the corridors with trim moustache and blond Nordic hair? His Hamlet is no introspective prince: this isn't an option when you play to the gallery. His is a nimble, mercurial Hamlet, largely unexceptional, except when he acts mad and pulls faces. Perhaps more of Branagh's creative juices went into directing rather than acting: the film is certainly more of a piece than any other of his Shakespeare forays. The camera often adopts the full-frontal position, catching performances in long takes, although the scene with Charlton Heston's Player King benefits from edgy shots of watching faces.

And so the film advances, richly caparisoned, subtlety mostly banished, the lines thumped home for all to hear. As you emerge, blinking, from four hours in the dark, you may feel tired and bludgeoned, but you cannot ever accuse Branagh of failing to achieve his goal: the complete *Hamlet*, decked in baubles for the multiplexes.

Hamlet
Curzon Mayfair
PG, 242 mins
Branagh's Shakespeare for the masses

Fierce Creatures
Empire, PG, 93 mins
Broad farce from John Cleese

In Love and War
Warner West End
15, 115 mins
Soggy romance from Richard Attenborough

She's the One
ABC Tottenham Court Road, 15, 97 min
Amiable but slight romantic comedy

Trees Lounge
Virgin Haymarket
15, 95 mins
Diary of a Long Island nobody

If there was room in *Hamlet* for Dodd, Williams, Crystal and company, where, you might think, was John Cleese? Too busy tinkering with **Fierce Creatures**, his long-awaited companion to *A Fish Called Wanda*. Shooting was completed in 1995. Reactions of preview audiences persuaded Cleese to rewrite the final third, but a year had to pass before his *Wanda* co-stars, Kevin Kline, Jamie Lee Curtis and Michael Palin, were free to return to the project. Robert Young, the original director, was never able to return, so Fred Schepisi filled the breach for the reshoot.

For all the protracted gestation, the film seems all of a piece: a farce, set in an English zoo, that telegraphs its jokes in advance but still allows laughter of sorts to flourish. None of the characters from *Wanda* surfaces, but there is the same delight in ribbing the British Establishment, indulging in sexual comedy and wooing American audiences. Cleese's character is Rollo Lee, newly appointed director of a zoo recently acquired by an Australian multi-media mogul (one of Kline's dual roles).

In order to indicate the mogul's vulgarity, Cleese and his co-writer Iain Johnstone let the man rip with farts and belches. Luckily, greater subtlety goes into other parts of the script, like the zoo's "fierce animal policy", designed to beef up box-office takings, but difficult to achieve with creatures such as lemurs.

But *Fierce Creatures* relies mostly on Cleese's squawks and bluster, on dropped pants and raised eyebrows, plus broad satire on marketing strategies, sponsorship deals and other signs of the times. *Creatures* is not as funny as *Wanda*, itself an overrated film, but it gets by.

One of the very last diversions of *Hamlet* is the sight of Richard Attenborough as the English Ambassador who arrives with the redundant news that Rosencrantz and Guilderstern are dead. All in a day's work for Attenborough, of course, who has spent most of his recent time filming **In Love and War** at Shepperton studios and a fetching group of Italian locations. Italy's job was to provide the backdrop for the love that ignited, flickered and faded between an ambulance driver called Ernest Hemingway and a nurse named Agnes von Kurowsky in the summer of 1918.

Compared to Attenborough's other biographical dramas, this romance does not attempt to plumb the depths, although he still aims for a spectacle throbbing with size and importance. As the stars, Sandra Bullock and Chris O'Donnell, perform their hesitation waltz, one thinks at times of *Ryan's Daughter*, another small story writ too large. Bullock's easy charm and no-nonsense air suit the nurse, while O'Donnell's boyish vitality comes in useful for the future author of *A Farewell to Arms* (Hemingway's fictional response to the affair). But they never seem other than movie figures, gliding through an undernourished film.

She's the One, Edward Burns's follow-up to the independent hit, *The Brothers McMullen*, is more of the same, only on a bigger budget. Burns himself plays Mickey, "the only English-speaking white guy driving a cab in New York". He becomes involved with, and marries, a fare named Hope (Maxine Bahns). Meanwhile, Mike McGlone, another *Brothers McMullen* alumnus, is cheating on his wife Rene (Jennifer Aniston, from *Friends*) with Heather (Cameron Diaz), Mickey's dream woman turned monster. Confused? Not for long: Burns takes great care to keep things clear in this pleasant enough, but hardly taxing, romantic comedy.

Even quieter pleasures are offered by **Trees Lounge**, the first feature directed by actor Steve Buscemi, pop-eyed talisman of American independent movies. As so often with first endeavours, he has dug into his own past to spin the sad-funny story of Tommy Basilio (played by Buscemi himself, who else?), a barfly and out-of-work mechanic who finds salvation of sorts driving his late uncle's ice-cream truck through the dull streets of Valley Stream, Long Island. This is Buscemi's home town, and the film's sense of place is a major asset.

Another is its generous response to all manner of humans, from Buscemi's funny, petulant loser to the older fixtures propping up the bar, and the 17-year-old girl, winningly played by Chloe Sevigny, who complicates the hero's life.

SNAP VERDICT

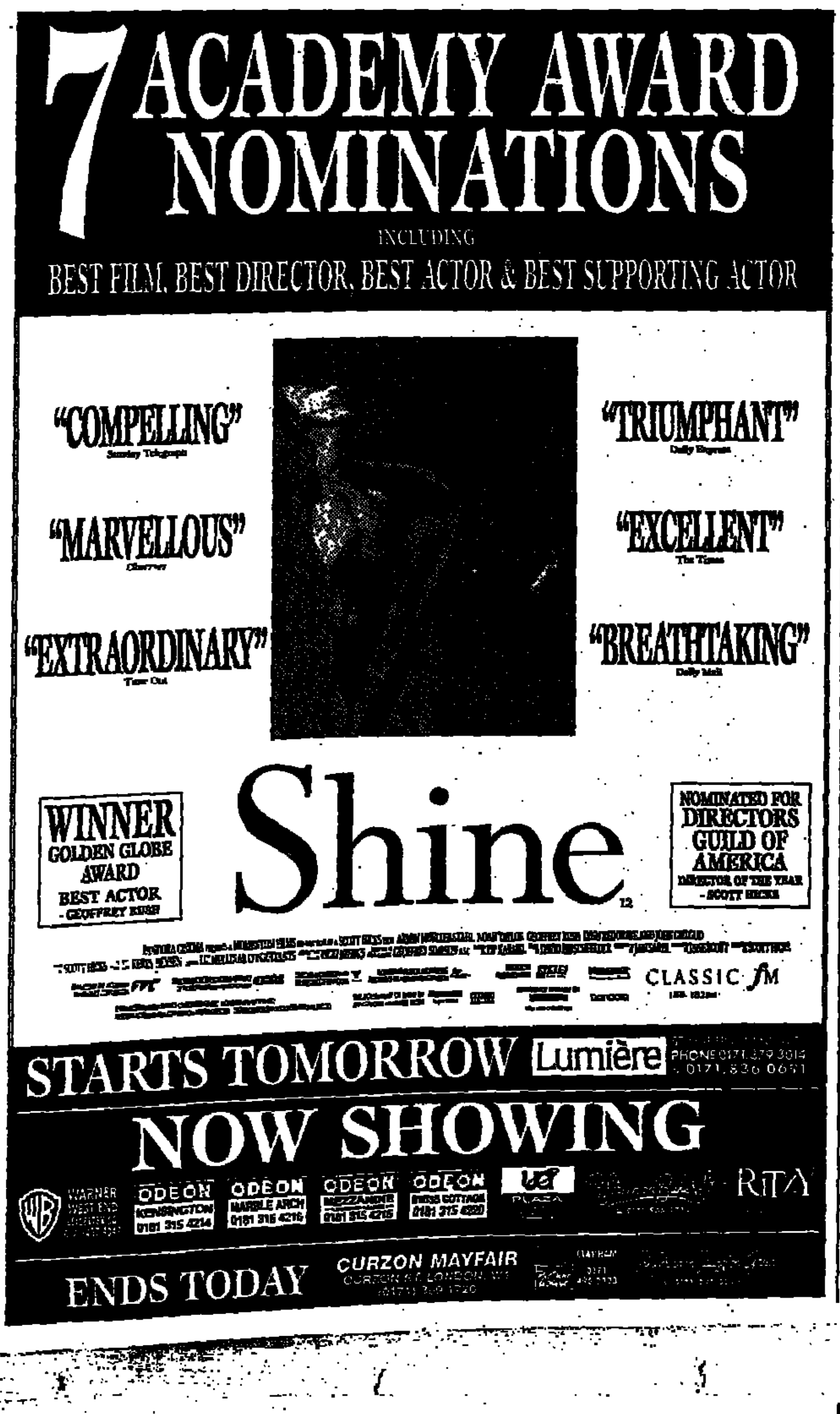
'Intensely moving'

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases . . .

☐ ***HAMLET***
Damian Samuels, 19: A startling cinematic experience, well told and directed.
Matt Jones, 20: Kenneth Branagh gets fantastic performances from his star-studded cast. It looks magnificent and rarely flagged.
Tim Thornton, 21: Intensely moving: the scenes between Hamlet and Horatio packed real emotional punch. Only the most pretentious of Shakespeare buffs are likely to find fault with this.
Nigel Wraxall, 18: The almost definitive version, with no poor performances.

☐ ***SHE'S THE ONE***
Damian: A pretty cast provides few laughs in a pretty mundane comedy.
Matt: Diverting but ultimately empty.
Tim: A good, old-fashioned turn-off-your-brain romantic comedy.
Nigel: An endearing story with strong characters.

☐ ***FIERCE CREATURES***
Damian: Tamer than *Wanda*, this bawdy comedy has perfectly timed set-pieces that are the work of an excellent team.
Matt: Far superior to most recent comedies.
Tim: Cleese & Co have made the best *Carry On* film ever: slick, sexy and superb.
Nigel: Slapstick at its very best.



7 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
INCLUDING
BEST FILM, BEST DIRECTOR, BEST ACTOR & BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
"COMPELLING" Sunday Telegraph
"MARVELLOUS" Observer
"EXTRAORDINARY" Time Out
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■ CHOICE 1

Jane Asher heads the cast of Doug Lucie's new play, *The Shallow End*

VENUE: Now in preview at the Duke of York's

■ CHOICE 2

. . . while Kate O'Mara directs and stars in a new *Twelfth Night*

VENUE: Opens tonight, Haymarket, Basingstoke

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 3

The Royal Ballet stages Twyla Tharp's *Push Comes to Shove*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Royal Opera House

■ NEW VIDEOS

Adolescent love in *Boys*, plus Cary Grant and Burt Lancaster in two classics from the Fifties

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

THE SHALLOW END: Doug Lucie's new play, directed by Robin Lefevre: behind the scenes at a smart wedding a media mogul's henchmen struggle for power. Jane Asher and Tony Doyle head an interesting cast
Royal Court Downstairs (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) *Previews begin today*, 7.30pm. Opens Feb 17, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm

ROYAL BALLET: *Returns only for this season's first* **Mixed Programme**, which includes David Bintley's *Consort Lessons*, Kenneth MacMillan's *The Judas Tree* and Twyla Tharp's *Push Comes to Shove*. Performances also on February 18, 25, 26, May 7, 8 and 12
***Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden*, WC2 (0171-304 4000) Tonight, 7.30pm.

SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS: *An outstanding score and* breathtaking choreography combine in the musical tale of lumberjack siblings whose idea of romance is to kidnap their prospective wives
Churchill, *High Street, Bromley (0181-460 6677)* Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until March 1

ELSEWHERE

BASINGSTOKE: Kate O'Mara directs and stars as Olivia in **Twelfth Night**. This production of Shakespeare's lyrical tale of romantic love and mistaken identity marks the revival of the British Actors Theatre Company.
***Haymarket**, Wote Street (01256 465566)* Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat and Wed (Feb 6), 3pm. Until March 8 ▣

GLASGOW: Conductor Osmo Vänskä leads the **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra** *in Sibelius's Second* Symphony, as part of the orchestra's Sibelius Symphony cycle. Paul Meyer, clarinet, joins the BBC SO for the British premiere of James MacMillan's *Tuireadh*, while Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem* completes the programme.
***City Hall**, Candleriggs (0141-287* 5511) Tonight, 7.30pm.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: Mark Ravenhill follows his *Shopping and F***ing* with a radical reworking of **Faust**, setting it as a journey of gruesome pleasure across modern America. Nick Philippou directs Alan Pelletier and Pete Baillie in a multimedia piece for Actors Touring Theatre.
Old Town Hall (01442 242827) Today-Sat, 8pm. Next venues: *Bridgewater, High Wycombe*, Lyric Hammersmith Studio

NEWCASTLE: Sphinx Theatre Co's **Goliath**, written by Bryony Lavery from Beatrix Campbell's book. Annie Castledine directs Nichola McAuliffe in a roasting attack on Tory housing policies and their effects on inner-city communities. Start of a 12-city tour.
Gulbenkian Studio, Playhouse, Barras Bridge (0191-230 5151). Today-Feb 22, 8pm *(no performance Sun)*

LONDON GALLERIES

Cadogan Contemporary: Clova Stuart-Hamilton (0171-581 5451). . **Chalk Farm**: Present: contemporary work by Sarah Keevil, Helen Lynch, Judy Pickering (0171-287 3300). . **Curwen**: Bernard Dunstan (0171-636 1459). . **Delfina**: Wim Delvoye (0171-357 6600). . **Festival Hall**: Yoko Ono and the Fluxus Movement (0171-960 4242). . **Jill George**: Crawford Adamson: New Paintings and Drawings (0171-439 7319). . . **National**: Young Gainsborough (0171-747 2885). . **National Theatre**: Snowdon on Stage (0171-928 2252). . **Ragged School Museum**: Land of Laundries (0181-980 6405). . . **Tate**: Works from the Ted Power Collection (0171-887 8000). . **Tom Blau**: The Goddesses: Photographs by Yevonde (0171-378 1300)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **AIRSWIMMING**: New Charlotte Jones play for Sweet Desserts Theatre Co, the story of two women shut away in a mental hospital for half a century for bearing an *illegitimate child*.
BAC, Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223) Tue-Sun, 8.30pm, Sun, 6.30pm. Until February 16.

■ **ART**: Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott in an exceptionally *interesting drama about friendship*, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white canvas. *Matthew Warchus directs*.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats *Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm.*

☐ **BACKPAY**: Tamantha Hammerschlag's first play, set in South Africa *where a white teenager searches* out her black nurse and hopelessly misjudges the ensuing situations.
Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (Circle), Ambassadors, West Street, *WC2 (0171-565 5000) Mon-Sat, 7pm;* mat Sat (Feb 22), 4pm. Until March 1

☐ **BEATRIX**: Cosy one-woman-show by Patricia Routledge, dipping into the life of Miss Potter, chronicler of flopsy bunnies and breeder of sheep
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, *2.30pm. Until February 15*

◪ ***DEATH OF A SALESMAN***: Alun Armstrong plays the hollow man deluded by slogans in competent *production of Miller's drama.*
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 *(0171-928 2252)* Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.15pm. In rep

◪ **HEATHCLIFF**: Cliff Richard's musical treatment of Wuthering Heights *reaches London after an extensive* national tour. Helen Hobson plays *Cathy, with songs by Tim Rice.*
Labatts Apollo, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0171-416 6050) Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until April 5.

☐ **LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR**: Neil Simon's funny account of *working among a team of scriptwriters* for comedian Sid Caesar in the 1950s
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

☐ **DAVID STRASSMAN**: Two weeks *only to see the astonishing American* ventriloquist, who finally leaves his loud-mouthed dummy, Chuck Wood, on stage to fend for himself
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Tue-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. Until February 15.

☐ **TROILUS AND CRESSIDA**: Ian Judge's busy production. Victoria Hamilton's Cressida and some other *performances enliven a long evening.*
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) *Tonight-Sat*, 7pm; mat Thurs and Sat, 1.30pm. In rep

☐ **WHEN GOD WANTED A SON**: Jewish professor, gentile wife, failed comedian daughter: Spencer Butler directs what is described as an *exploration of language and comedy*
New End, New End, Hampstead, NW3 (0171-794 0022) Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm. Until March 9

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) . . ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) . . ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 *1807*) . . ◪ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . . ◪ **Oliver!**: Palladium *(0171-494 5020)* . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054)

Ticket information supplied by Society *of London Theatre*

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **FLY AWAY HOME** (U): Endearing tale of orphaned Canada geese, with *Anna Paquin and Jeff Daniels*
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ▣ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-*352 5096*) **Warner** *(0171-437 4343)*

HIS GIRL FRIDAY *(U)*: Hard, fast newspaper comedy, vintage 1940, with Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell. Director, Howard Hawks
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721) **NFT** *(0171-928 3232)*

THE PROPRIETOR *(12)*: *French writer* returns home to wartime memories. Leaden drama, with Jeanne Moreau
Minema (0171-235 4225) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-*370 2636*) **Warner** *(0171-437 4343)*

RIDICULE *(15)*: Patrice Leconte's *witty* costume piece set in Louis XVI's court, with Fanny Ardant, Jean Rochefort
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** *(0171-498 3323)* **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Gate Notting Hill** *(0171-727 4043)* **Ritzy** *(0171-737 2121)* **Screen on the Hill** (0171-435 3366)

◆ **WHITE MAN'S BURDEN** (15): Underdog John Travolta claims justice from his employer, Harry Belafonte. Flawed presentation of an interesting premise. Director, Desmond Nakano
Odeon West End (0181-315 4221)

CURRENT

◆ ***EVITA*** *(PG)*: *Madonna sings with* passion, but production overkill plays havoc with Lloyd Webber's rock opera.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) ***Marble Arch*** *(0181-315* 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** ▣ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ▣ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham *Road*** *(0171-370 2636)* **Trocadero** ▣ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ▣ (0171-437 *4343)*

◆ ***EXTREME MEASURES*** (15): Dashing doctor Hugh Grant stumbles on unethical research in New York.
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) ***Marble Arch*** *(0181-315 4216)* **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** *(0181-315 4221)* ***UCI Whiteleys*** ▣ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

FLIRTING WITH DISASTER (15): Lively black satire about a young man's search for his real parents. With Ben Stiller and Patricia Arquette.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** *(01426-914 666)* **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990) **Virgin: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** (0171-437 *4343)*

QUADROPHENIA (15): Energetic portrait of 1960s Mods and Rockers, *inspired by The Who's concept album*. Directed in 1979 by Franc Roddam.
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **RANSOM** (15): Intermittently absorbing kidnap drama, with Mel Gibson, Rene Russo and Gary Sinise
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** ▣ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Notting Hill Coronet** ▣ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) ***Marble Arch*** *(0181-315 4216)* **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) ***Waterman's*** *(0181-568 1176)*

Uneasy Ryder loses her balance

NEW ON VIDEO

Winona Ryder stars in Stacy Cochran's *Boys*, a worthy effort let down by its script and its gloomy images

■ **BOYS**
PolyGram, 15, 1996
WINONA RYDER, a distressed damsel with an air of mystery, finds a knight *in shining armour* in Lukas Haas, a disaffected high-school student. It is clear enough what director Stacy Cochran wants in this singular little film: a study of two *lives in the* balance, offering each other redemption. But an inadequate script, fuzzy characters and gloomy images get in the way. Available to rent.

■ **AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER**
Fox, U, 1957
LEO McCAREY'S glutinous comedy romance might have been left slumbering, had not *Sleepless in Seattle brought it* back *into* the public arena by making such a point of its plot. Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr fall in love, only to be dealt a bad hand by fate.

■ **THE CABLE GUY**
Columbia TriStar, 12, 1996
JIM CARREY'S screen personality has always bordered on the obnoxious, but this gruelling, ambitious comedy pushes *him* way over *the edge*. He is a cable TV technician with a need to bond with his customers. Matthew Broderick bears the brunt as the film becomes swamped by hard-hearted mayhem and *rudery*. Director, Ben Stiller. Available to rent.

■ **MOONLIGHT AND VALENTINO**
PolyGram, 15, 1996
NOTHING *to do with the silent star or* the fashion designer: this Valentino is a *dog, who accompanies a house painter* (Jon Bon Jovi) on his travels. But the people who matter are the women: the grieving widow (Elizabeth Perkins), the neurotic sister (Gwyneth Paltrow), the *kooky best friend* (Whoopi Goldberg). They cluster round, thrashing *out their thoughts in a sensitive film*. Written by Ellen Simon, daughter of Neil. Available to rent.

■ **APACHE**
Warner, PG, 1954
BURT LANCASTER got out the warpaint for this exciting and intelligent Western about the one-man war waged by a native brave against the US Cavalry. Taut, vigorous direction by Robert Aldrich; Charles Bronson pops up *under his real surname*, Buchinsky.

GEOFF BROWN

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Late Schubert; Donizetti's Oxford opera; the pleasures of Pfitzner

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Hilary Finch

■ **SCHUBERT/ BOCCHERINI**
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Stern, Laredo, Ma, etc
Sony SK 53983★ £15.49
ISAAC STERN leads a group of young musicians in a new recording of the great C major Quintet Schubert wrote two months before his death. It is a tempting proposition, but beware. *The aim of these players* seems to be to give the Quintet a robust physical presence: the result is disappointingly crude and earthbound.

The Borodin Quartet (Teldec, 1994) and, indeed, Stern in his young prime in the classic 1952 recording with Tortelier and Casals show that this can be done without de*spiritualising the work. Here*, its passion is marred by a sense of heavy-handed effort: its lyrical, meditative passages seem merely weary and valedictory. *The balance of voices* in the great slow movement is just not fine enough to catch the breath and suspend time itself.

The Boccherini Quintet (Op 13, No 5), *with its famous* Minuet, comes as something of a relief, and the players are at last free to enjoy themselves unreservedly.

OPERA

John Higgins

■ ***DONIZETTI***
Rosmonda d'Inghilterra
Fleming/Miricioiu/ Montague/Ford/Miles/ Philharmonia/Parry
Opera Rara ORC13 (2 CDs)★★★ £32.99
WERE anyone bold enough to stage it, *Rosmonda d'Inghilterra* could become known as Donizetti's Oxford opera. Rosmonda, *mistress of Enrico* (King Henry II), is secreted in a tower in a remote corner of Woodstock Park, where all the action takes place. His wife Leonora (Eleanor of Aquitaine) eventually *confronts* and kills her, an adjustment of history, as the real Rosmonda ended her days more peacefully in the nearby nunnery of Godstow.

Opera Rara makes a compelling case for a neglected work by securing two of America's best young singers for the roles of the King and the lady he would have as his *next Queen*. Renée Fleming is in cracking form as Rosmonda, who gets extended arias in both acts, showing off her coloratura and singing *with a sweetness that makes it* quite understandable that Enrico should want her as his next wife. Bruce Ford is not always well favoured by the recording but *still* manages *plenty* of vocal heroics and has the clean attack Donizetti demanded from his tenors.

Nelly Miricioiu sounds worn in Act I, a worried Leonora, *but handles her closing aria of remorse in style*. Perhaps she was the one who retired to Godstow. Good *support from Alastair Miles*, revealed mid-opera as Rosmonda's papa, and from Diana Montague as the page who loves her even more than Enrico does. The *vigour of David Parry's* conducting helps to conceal the fact that parts of the work verge on the formulaic.

CDs reviewed in *The Times* can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345-023 498

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Barry Millington

■ **PFITZNER/STRAUSS**
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Orchestra of the Deutsche Oper, Berlin/Thielemann
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PFITZNER'S legendary opera *Palestrina* has had a somewhat cool *reception* at Covent Garden, though it is undoubtedly one of the major works of the century.

If you are deterred by the *prospect of four and half* hours in the theatre, or simply cannot afford it, you can at least get a very good idea of the composer's sound-world from this disc.

The preludes to the three acts of *Palestrina* are conducted with all the skill, sympathy and interpretative insight that Christian Thielemann brings *to bear at the Royal Opera too*, though the orchestra is that of the Deutsche Oper, Berlin (the clarinet solo in the third act prelude is just as ravishing).

Also included are a *short* extract from a later Pfitzner opera, *Das Herz*, and the overture from his incidental music to Kleist's play, *Das Käthchen von Heilbronn*.

Some listeners may find the warm humanity of Richard Strauss rather more engaging — and the ripe Romanticism of his early *Guntram* overture is a welcome choice here, as is *the love scene from the equally* neglected *Feuersnot* — yet Pfitzner certainly speaks with an unmistakably individual voice.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

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■ CINEMA

El Mariachi, made for $7,000, is the inspiration for a *Times* film-makers' competition

■ THEATRE 1

Eric Sykes and Peter Bowles are superb in Peter Hall's staging of Molière's *The School for Wives*

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ THEATRE 2

Shakuntala, at the Gate, is a brave but flawed attempt to revive an epic from 2,000 years ago

■ TOMORROW

They're back, they're mean — and they're clean: how Aerosmith found a way to survive

Geoff Brown on the pleasures and challenges that await the winner of a new Arriflex 16SR 3

A piece of the light camera action

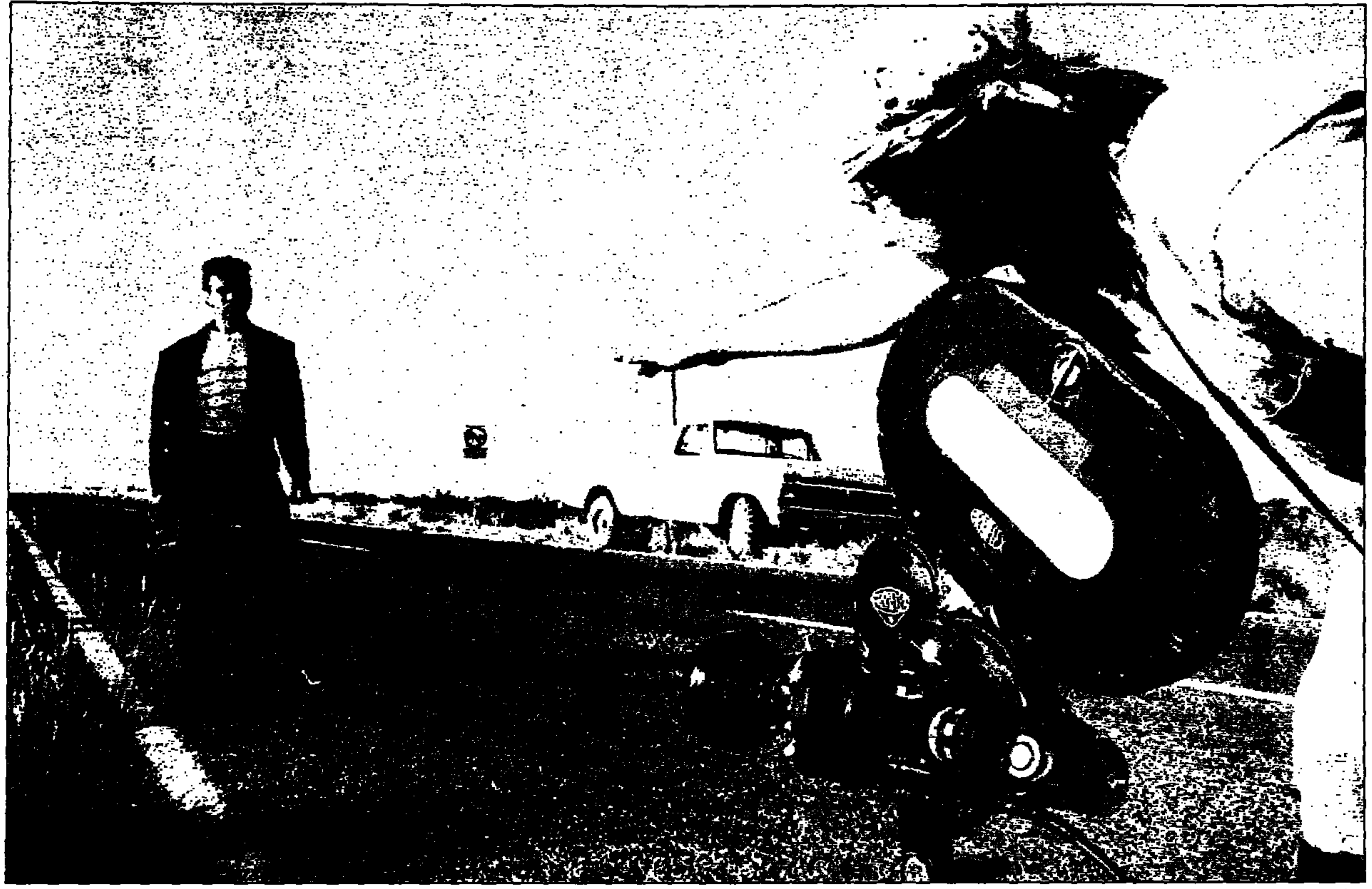
Almost everybody, it seems, wants to make a movie. Bookshops fill entire shelves with how-to books about scriptwriting and film production. Fashionable universities offer courses and workshops: the current *Sight and Sound* magazine offers nine advertisements from institutions in Britain and North America, dangling the prospect of becoming the next discovery at the Sundance Film Festival, or — why not? — Cannes itself.

The Times is doing its part, too, by today launching a competition offering as the top prize a key weapon in the film-maker's armoury: an Arriflex 16SR 3 camera. This is the kind of handheld equipment that Robert Rodriguez used to make *El Mariachi*, which cost $7,000 to make, and shot Rodriguez from nowhere into the front line of American independent directors.

If ever dreams came true, they did for Rodriguez — and ahead of schedule. Recalling his 23rd birthday in his amusing book about his *Mariachi* adventures, *Rebel Without a Crew*, he writes: "Orson Welles made *Citizen Kane* when he was 25. Spielberg made *Jaws* at 26. So I've only got about two or three years to make my breakthrough film."

This was not always so. When studios ruled, both in Hollywood and elsewhere, film-makers were expected to take time to mature. They worked behind the scenes, as editors, writers or cinematographers. They learnt on the job directing fodder: low-budget westerns, supporting shorts. John Huston was 35 when he made his first film, *The Maltese Falcon*. Fred Zinnemann, the director of *High Noon*, only got into his stride in his forties, after years of shorts or desperate films like *My Brother Talks to Horses*.

But without the support system of studios or television, aspiring film-makers are forced to be mavericks, whether or not they have Welles's talent. They work up their script, which may be conceived as an anguished personal statement or, as with Rodriguez, a first step towards commercial respectability. They finance their project through their day jobs, loans from friends or family, or their credit cards. Shooting takes place in an improvised frenzy; post-production scarcely exists. They submit their film to a festival, if possible Sundance, nurtured by Robert Redford: the preferred launching pad for any new American talent, especially after Steven Soderbergh's *sex, lies, and videotape* catapulted the 26-year-old director towards the Palme d'Or at Cannes.



Robert Rodriguez, with the Arriflex camera that helped him to make a big-time career from a chicken-feed budget, directs Carlos Gallardo in a scene from *El Mariachi*

The maverick method has virtues and vices. The studio's embrace can give your film a professional sheen, and a screenplay honed by the best script doctors in the land. It can also sap your project of any individuality. On the other hand, if you go it alone with a handful of friends and a shoestring budget, you have no one but yourself to slap your ideas into shape. First-time makers often have difficulty separating wheat from chaff, especially if the subject-matter is personal.

But the maverick's shoestring also inspires inventive film-making of a kind rarely known by an established director smothered in money. Your available set is too poky for words, so it's up to you to expand the unexpandable through camera angles or crafty editing. Generous budgets and the marching army of computer-generated effects have robbed film-makers of the ability to suggest. Everything is laid out before us, whether it be a swirling tornado or a spaceship the size of a football stadium. But, with humble resources, you can invite audiences to use their imagination. Not for nothing has the lighting of German Expressionist films influenced so many low-budget thrillers and experimental ventures. Shadows are wonderful for obscuring blank walls.

The low-budget beginner can also blaze new paths, away from commercial fashions and formulae. Sadly, however, so few do. Each year, festivals get clogged with imitation Tarantino, or kindergarten Woody Allen movies. One dubious item is coming our way in two weeks' time. *Bound*, the credits announce, is "written and directed by the Wachowski Brothers". Determined to get noticed, Larry and Andy Wachowski lacquer the screen with designer violence, and place two sultry lesbians at the head of a grubby, standard gangster story. Result: the year's most hollow screen achievement.

Luckily, others have better ambitions. With no film school training at all, Britain's Shane Meadows took a camera on to the streets of his home town, Nottingham, to make *Small Time*, 60 minutes of mordant fun observing the foibles of thieves and layabouts who will steal anything not nailed down. The film is fresh, rude, close to life, and it cost all of £5,000: the perfect tonic for anyone tired of watching Helena Bonham Carter cavort in crinoline in yet another heritage drama.

"I was lied to about films and how to make them," Meadows has said. "I suffered at the hands of the failed film-maker. Only when I started making them for my own reasons and in my own style did anyone take any notice of me."

My own reasons; my own style. These are the crucial elements in making a first movie worth the heartache, poverty and sweat, and making the end product worth a paying audience's attention. Go to it.

CALLING ALL MOVIEMAKERS

For details of the movie competition to win the £56,000 Arriflex camera and how you can enter, see page 32

Flights of fine fancy

For the second of the Endymion Ensemble's Composer Choice Concerts, John Casken devised and presented an elegantly unified, harmonious programme. Casken's brief was to include a work of his own and one to be commissioned from a young composer. His choice fell on Tom Armstrong, whose *Promenade* thus received its world premiere, while Casken's own *Infanta Marina* from 1994 had another welcome outing.

Acknowledging his debt to Debussy and Takemitsu, Casken noted that just as Takemitsu's *And then I knew 'twas wind* borrowed the instrumentation of the French master's Sonata for Flute, Viola and Harp, so his own piece also incorporated that evocative combination.

CONCERT

Endymion Ensemble
Purcell Room

The model itself — the *Debussy Sonata* — was played by Helen Keen, Gustave Clarkson and Helen Tunstall with a delicacy and a soulfulness that brought out the "austere beauty" that Casken himself hears in the work.

Takemitsu's somewhat unfortunate title is taken from an Emily Dickinson poem and evokes not only a natural force but also a metaphysical state. It is a typically refined score, sensitively realised by the members of the Endymion.

The title of Casken's own *Infanta Marina* also harks back to the work of another American poet — Wallace Stevens — though the Marina of Shakespeare's *Pericles* was also an inspiration. The infanta, or princess, is imagined to be passing between land and sea, past and present. To this end, Casken scores his piece for two groups of three instruments — Debussy's flute, viola and harp, plus clarinet, horn and double bass — with a cor anglais situated between them and associating in turn with each.

The piece is full of arresting and novel touches, not least its coda, which takes off in a whirling flight of fancy. There was some fine playing from the Endymion under Quentin Poole, though in places, particularly with reference to the solo cor anglais (Joseph Sanders), one wondered whether greater familiarity might draw out a more languid cantabile line.

Armstrong's single-movement *Promenade* shows its composer to have a good ear for combined sonorities as well as an instinct for invigorating thematic material.

BARRY MILLINGTON

THEATRE: Marvellous Molière brings out the tragi-comic best in its cast. Plus an uneven Indian epic of nymphs and demons

Peter Bowles as Arnulphe in *The School for Wives* with Eric Sykes and Daniel Betts

Bow to a clown prince

In the past two years or so Peter Bowles has successfully played a sexual and emotional down-and-out in Rattigan's *Separate Tables*, a curmudgeon with a heart in the same writer's *In Praise of Love*, and a terrifyingly grim hood in a play called *Gangster Number One*, so I cannot believe anyone now thinks of him as a television actor of limited range.

But if such an invincible idiot still exists, he should at once be taken by cart or, preferably, tumbril to Peter Hall's revival of *School for Wives*. There, Bowles is giving a performance that should establish him once and for all on the top table, alongside the deftest, wittiest and most complete actors we possess.

The School for Wives
Piccadilly

Arnolphe, the play's protagonist, is a blend of *Pygmalion* and old goat, and one of the maddest and saddest of Molière's monomaniacs. He bought Agnes when she was four, has educated her to know nothing and nobody but him, and is preparing for the day when he can transfer her unsullied body from her provincial hideaway into his bed. "These days we turn out cuckolds by the score, one man in two is married to a whore," boasts Bowles's Arnolphe, pointing at bashful-looking members of the audience by way of emphasising that his love-life will be very different from the 17th or 20th-century average.

It is not only in tragedy that hubris rears its head — or, here, its auburn wig — and gets its comeuppance. Everything about Bowles proclaims self-satisfaction, from his precious voice and smug smile to the purple lining of his suit and the odd, MacArnulphe tartan of his waistcoat. But then Molière presents him with trouble in the form of a young rival who also happens to be the son of an old chum. He must listen while Daniel Betts's trusting Horace confides his feelings for Gillian Kearney's doe-eyed Agnes and, for all the power that secrecy and pretended friendship give him, he must watch as love burgeons unstoppably between them.

It is a marvellous comic situation, and Bowles gets his laughs all right. But he isn't content to be the vindictive pantaloon or to smile glazed, ghastly smiles and laugh weird asthmatic laughs while raging within. Jealousy changes him, and not wholly for the worse. Self-love becomes love. The voracious old beau finds a growing tenderness for Agnes and a deepening despair inside himself. By the time he totters off with a tiny wail, thwarted by Molière's usual *deus ex machina*, he looks as if he has lost 3lb in weight and gained 30 years.

Moreover, Bowles achieves this while doing perfect justice to the rhymed iambs of Ranjit Bolt's sometimes elegant, sometimes exorbitantly colloquial translation. No wonder I went out touched and delighted from a production that also brings back to the stage Eric Sykes as Agnes's custodian. With his drooping jowls and beaky nose, the comedian is a hilarious mix of bloodhound, moose and parrot. And when he starts lugubriously mugging or getting his fingers caught in his buttonholes, you wonder if he risks unbalancing the production.

But no. Didn't Molière himself highlight the commedia? Didn't clowning remain part of the recipe as his comedy darkened? And, anyway, who could upstage Bowles in this mood? Not Sykes, not all three Marx Brothers, not anyone.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

A touch of epic ennui

The tales of the *Mahabharata* do not appeal to all tastes, and I am one who finds quickly resistible those mighty battles and constant orders to young people to believe their elders know better. What we currently have at the Gate is a play derived from that epic by a poet named Kalidasa some two thousand years ago, and now translated by Peter Oswald, author of the National's recent *Fair Ladies at a Game of Poem Cards*.

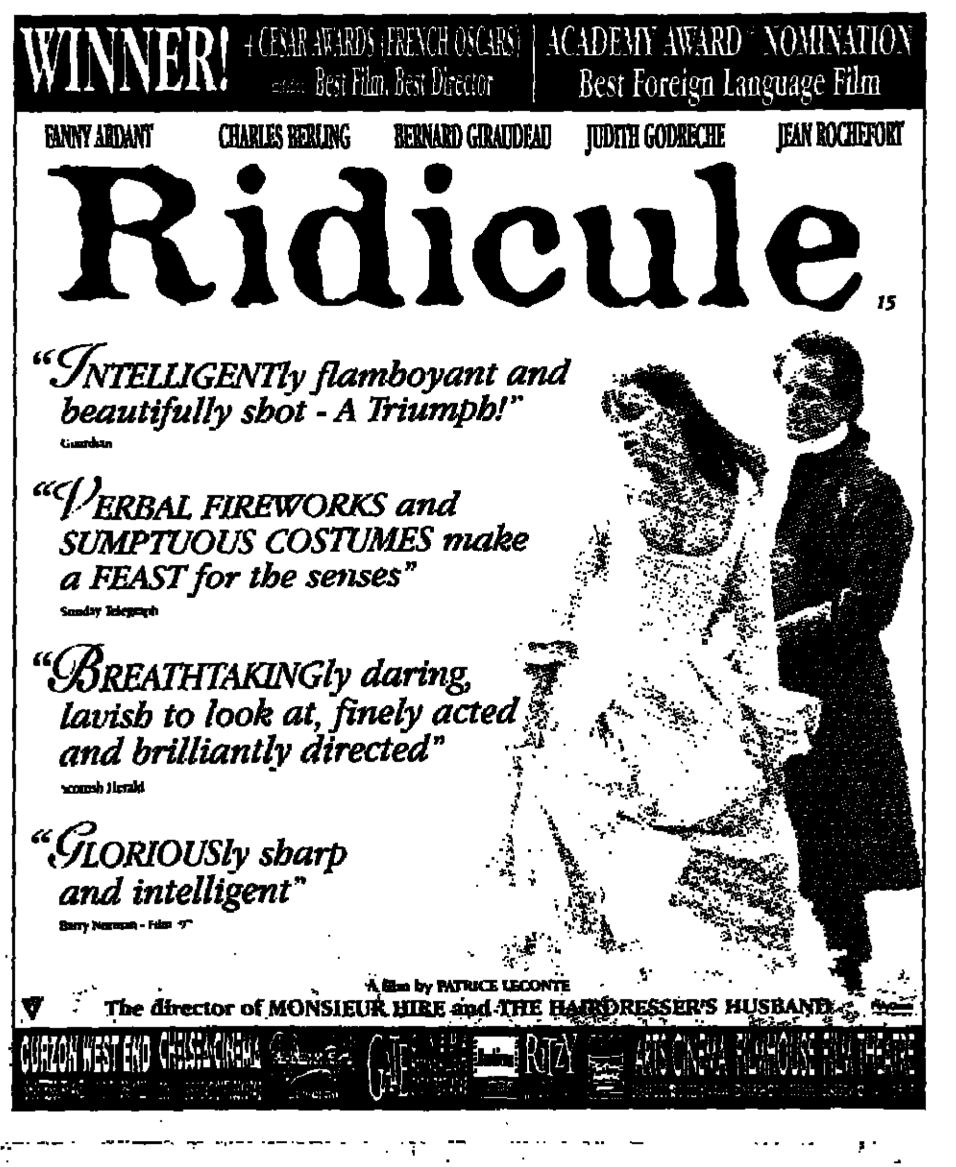
Shakuntala
Gate

That time Japan, this time India where King Duhshanta falls in love with the daughter of a heavenly nymph. They marry, he returns to his court but, before she can follow him, a demon curses her for being slow to open the door of her courtyard to his demands. A sexual subtext can be pictured here, though the play runs smoothly over it. Nevertheless, the curse operates on the king's memory, causing him to forget he ever married the lovely Shakuntala, and the happy end is not reached until she has been snatched up into the sky, a missing ring found in the belly of a carp, and the king rides in the chariot of the gods to defeat an army of demons against whom Indra is powerless.

The play offers intriguing problems of staging, some of which are neatly solved in Indhu Rubasingham's production. Gods gaze down through rippling clouds at the earth far below, and the first entry of the king (Silas Carson) on his own chariot is excellent. But much of the evening passes slowly, even though the scenes come hurtling after each other with sections of the story oddly left undramatised, perhaps to preserve a sense of the original epic style.

Oswald employs a language that uses the vocabulary of poetry without its grammar, imparting a sense of being suffocated under artificial blossoms. The quality of performance varies. Carson finds a fitting blend of hauteur and concern, and Will Keen is effective in several roles. Lesley McGuire daydreams prettily but did not convince me she would enchant a king.

JEREMY KINGSTON



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هكذا من الاصل

Peter Ackroyd on the restless life of a bad, but not mad, boy, who became the foremost symbol of Romanticism

The wandering outlaw of his own dark mind

BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

Devil with the best lines: detail of Sir William Allan's Lord Byron reposing in the house of a fisherman

The life of Lord Byron provokes astonishment rather than admiration: he was not so much a "flawed angel", as the subtitle of Phyllis Grosskurth's interesting biography suggests, but a devil who had all the best lines. He treated the world as if it were an importunate tradesman, and he never made the mistake of paying his own bills: he managed to turn indebtedness into an artform.

Like all great writers he was "self-made", as Phyllis Grosskurth mentions, but he also came from a reckless and extravagant family of adventurers; he had a terrible childhood, born with a deformed foot and abandoned by his father like some parable of the outcast. Child George's pilgrimage was indeed to be an arduous and ultimately unhappy one. He inherited his title at a very early age but he rarely possessed the means to maintain his suddenly exalted position; he only ever managed to live up to the deformity which, to judge by his despair and dissatisfaction, affected him more than anyone ever recognised.

He was a bad, but not mad, boy perpetually falling in love with members of both sexes: all his life, in fact, he gives the impression of wrestling with some prince or princess *lointaine* who was constantly wounding and taunting him. He careered from Harrow to Cambridge, having already informed his doting and foolish mother that "I will carve myself the passage to Grandeur . . ."

It was in this period, therefore, he began to write poetry. His first success came with *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers* which is described by Phyllis Grosskurth as "one of the most unpleasant poems in the English language". It has a wilful fluency, however: Byron's greatest strength lay in his contempt, and his greatest weakness in his vanity.

His first grand tour of Europe was undertaken in his twenty-first year, but he was restless in more than a topographical scense. He was always demanding, always dissatisfied, with a condition that his latest biographer labels "manic depression". He liked nothing so much as excess, and possessed one of those natures which needs constant excitement or risks sinking into a faint. He lived in extremes, doing everything too much, turning interests into obsessions and turbulence into mania. Hence Phyllis Grosskurth's descriptions of his "manic dieting": there was a time when he ate nothing but mashed potatoes soaked in vinegar.

Such a person should not really be allowed to dominate the lives of others, but of course Byron proceeded to ruin the morals as well as the happiness of several people. "I cannot exist without some object of love," he once wrote, but that object was generally himself. His brief marriage, very well described here, was an affair of horror. One aspect of it may be a clue to many others: he detested the sight of a woman eating, so his wife was forced to dine in another room. He was in fact happy only in his incestuous union with his half-sister, Augusta, and that is because her features closely resembled his own. Phyllis Grosskurth writes of his "innate loveableness" but she provides no real evidence for that assertion: in fact her biography demonstrates all the chilly degrees of his cold-heartedness and indefatigable self-absorption.

BYRON
The Flawed Angel
By Phyllis Grosskurth
Hodder & Stoughton, £25
ISBN 0 340 60753 X

It is a critical biography in that sense, but criticism of a more orthodox kind does not often enter its pages. Phyllis Grosskurth is more intent upon the life than the art — although at the end, as she suggests, the two came together and created a formidable myth. The political role of Byron, however, was always significant. His now celebrated speech exonerating the behaviour of the Luddite "frame-breakers" did not receive much notice at the time, but the publication in the same year of *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* caused a great sensation. It is always claimed that he became famous overnight, but the fame was at first reserved to a small group of wealthy or aristocratic families. He adored his success, of course, and found it easy to adopt a pose or create a persona. In the drawing rooms of London, Byron became Byronic.

That he was a poet of genius is not really in doubt. He lived within a dream of passion which only became real in his poetry; in life it was formless and vacant (and thus with the terrible potential of enveloping other people) but in his art it was controlled and melodic. Phyllis Grosskurth is right to find in *Don Juan* the "fusion of the lyrical and satirical", but half the power of Byron's verse comes from his ability to project himself upon the world. He found in the spectacle of decaying empires, or of beleaguered races, an emblem of his own fate; he was in that sense a public writer, even if it was a kind of self-publicity.

After being a sensation, he took the next step and ascended into scandal: intimations of incest, and the prurient gossip surrounding the separation from his unfortunate wife, almost obscured his face as a writer. So, like many before and after him, he moved to the Continent and spoke of England to his friends as "your country". He grew fat, dissipated, and debauched, with an interest in gondoliers as well as girls.

The truth of his poetry is the truth of the man: he had no enduring or constant feelings but he was master of the fleeting mood, able in a letter or in a conversation perfectly to express the emotion he was then temporarily experiencing. That is why he was intoxicating, even addictive, but in the end unsatisfactory.

So his long sojourn in Italy degenerated into a history of feuds and recriminations. There are famous incidents — the death of his neglected daughter and the drowning of Shelley among them — but on the whole it is a sorry record of a wasted vocation. Phyllis Grosskurth makes the shrewd and significant point that, all his life, Byron lived in large and empty rooms: this is the strongest image to be found of the man, somehow more arresting than the many paintings and drawings of a somewhat effeminate or petulant figure.

The last act was, perhaps, the most paradoxical. The man who had almost criminally evaded responsibility all his life, as Phyllis Grosskurth demonstrates, was suddenly meant to become the "saviour of Greece". The adventure ended in tears or, rather, in showers. After riding through the rain, Byron contracted a fever which killed him slowly as he lay "moaning, shivering, delirious". Some of his last words were "Oh, my God! then all is lost, for it is now too late!" It was not too late, however, for the apotheosis of Lord Byron. He had managed to turn himself into a myth, as Phyllis Grosskurth points out, as soon as everyone forgot that he had once been a monster.

Tissues of sound and sense

Michael Hofmann

VIEW WITH A
GRAIN OF SAND
Selected Poems
By Wislawa Szymborska
Translated by
Stanislaw Baranczak
and Clare Cavanagh
Faber, £8.99
ISBN 0 571 19163 0

SUBHUMAN
REDNECK POEMS
By Les Murray
Carcanet, £7.95
ISBN 1 85754 249 5

When the Polish poet Wislawa Szymborska won the Nobel Prize last November, and Faber rushed out *View With A Grain Of Sand* the same month, it must have looked in some quarters like opportunism, but in fact it was only energetic coincidence. Poetry isn't yet something you can turn around in three weeks and the project to publish her had been in hand for two or three years.

Szymborska was born in 1923, which makes her part of the same outstanding generation as Zbigniew Herbet and Czeslaw Milosz. Her poems are wonderfully open, fresh, well-made, and readable. This is their first major airing in English: in 1990, a small batch of them, *People On a Bridge*, was published by the tiny, plucky translation outfit, Forest Books.

She is squarely representative of all that is best about Eastern European poetry of the Cold War era, a poetry that was disciplined, intelligent and deservingly popular. Much of it was written in the form of essay-poem or parable, with humour its only — lifesaving — luxury. Szymborska is a little more florid than some of her peers, and here she is well served by the strikingly good translations of Stanislaw Baranczak and Clare Cavanagh, with rhymes and comic off-rhymes, word-plays and neologisms, and cool command of idiom and register.

The poems of Szymborska are clever, simple and concise, a clean, swift stroke of a gifted imagination. A poem called *Funeral* recreates the sad event from single lines of overheard speech; *In Broad Daylight* sees the ghost of a promising Polish poet who died in the Warsaw Uprising; *An Unexpected Meeting* turns an encounter between former lovers into a funny and disappointed bestiary: "Our snakes have shed their lightning./Our apes their flights of fancy./Our peacocks have renounced their plumes./The bats flew out of our hair long ago.//We fall silent in mid-sentence./All smiles, past help./ Our humans/ Don't know how to talk to one another." I can't imagine anyone not enjoying Szymborska.

Les Murray: vehement gift

I feel every bit as strongly about the great Australian poet, Les Murray, whose vehement gift seems to me at least equal to that of anyone now writing English. Unlike Szymborska, what he writes is not for the uninitiated reader, but if you like Hopkins or Dylan Thomas you might try Murray.

For some time now, Murray's books have been dedicated "to the glory of God". An amazingly wholehearted man and poet, an autodidact, a translator for the Australian Government from an array of languages, and now a cattle farmer on his father's ranch in New South Wales, he is as abundant and sometimes as harsh as what he writes about. His poems are dazzlingly careless tissues of sound and sense; there is no attenuation from thing to word; it's as though he took direction from nature:

Odd mornings, it's been all bloodflag
And raffle green: a stopped-motion shrapnel
Of kingparrots. Smithereens when they freaked.

Never a pinch of anything: never less than a double handful. His nature poems are *sui generis*. His poems on depression, bullying and autism have a terrifying tenderness. *Subhuman Redneck Poems*, the winner of the T.S.Eliot Prize (so far), is his best book in ten years. Read it!

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Taking Ames

Former British agent **Oleg Gordievsky** settles old scores with a spy who almost sent him to the grave

Many are familiar with the story of Aldrich Ames, the spy who caused the CIA more damage than anyone else in the organisation's history. Ames, who occupied a top position in the American intelligence service and knew all the secrets of the Soviet/East European section, offered his services to the KGB in exchange for money in 1985. The KGB, scarcely believing its luck, took him under its wing. Over the following nine years, Ames gave Moscow all the American secrets he knew, handing over top-secret documents and the names of all the CIA and FBI agents in Soviet state institutions. They numbered *about 20 in the Soviet Union and 25 others from* East European countries. Almost all of them were arrested by the KGB, and the nine agents most valuable to the Americans were executed. I was the tenth on this list, the only British agent who was betrayed by Ames. By a miracle, I avoided the grim fate of the others, escaping house-arrest in Moscow and making it to the West with the help of MI6.

Ames not only delivered an enormous blow to Western security, but strengthened the KGB's position in the Soviet Union, so indirectly delaying the collapse of the Communist system by several years. In return the KGB paid him record sums for Soviet espionage: approximately $3 million.

When the Russians helping the Americans began to disappear in autumn 1985, the CIA and FBI realised that there was an information leak and began looking for its source. It took 8½ years of painstaking work before the betrayer was unmasked and arrested in 1994, with a collection of evidence that was incontrovertible. He was sentenced to life imprisonment without right of parole.

The American journalist Pete Earley met Ames in prison and spent 36 hours recording in flattering detail the offerings of the vainglorious prisoner. From there, Earley flew to Moscow, where he met many of the KGB officers who had been working with Ames. They gave the author many curious and piquant details. Earley also met the relatives of the executed Russians and recorded their grievous tales. On his return to Washington, he managed to see many of the American participants in the drama: the officers of the CIA and FBI. The result is a documentary full of fascinating new detail, and many of the characteristics of an enjoyable thriller.

The confessions and outpourings of the spy are lengthy, *monotonous and self-serving.* The author clearly wanted to unravel the "complex psychological and intellectual world" of the traitor and executioner — but it is hard to unravel when it doesn't exist. In answer to the question why he betrayed his country, he replied: "I did it for the money . . . Why did this betrayal come so easily to me? I just don't know." Explaining his betrayal of all the Soviet agents known to him, which sent them to their deaths, he said: "Fear and profit." His fear was that one of the CIA's sources would learn what he had done. The best way to protect himself was by giving the KGB the names of every American "intelligence asset". *Their arrests and executions were simply* a matter of self-preservation. Soon after his arrest, Ames confessed to having exposed me to Moscow at a very early stage, but in one of his "confessions" to Pete Earley he adds: "The Brits have a problem! They got a mole of their own in MI6 who gave up Gordievsky before I did. They have a penetration!" The most important American source in the Soviet Union was the general of Soviet military intelligence, Dmitri Polyakov (Top Hat). He worked secretly for the CIA for 18 years. In some respects he did more than anyone to prevent the Cold War becoming a nuclear holocaust. Thanks to Ames he was arrested in 1986. The elderly man was questioned and tried for three years. At his final meeting with his relatives, he was asked what fate lay ahead of him, and replied "Bratskaya Mogila" — a common, unmarked grave.

Fear and profit: Ames (1994)

CONFESSIONS
OF A SPY
The Real Story
of Aldrich Ames
By Pete Earley
Hodder & Stoughton, £20
ISBN 0 340 64707 8

Asked how he managed to betray such men as Polyakov, Ames confessed that his own "wants became paramount" and that his "belief in the struggle between the light and darkness evaporated". But straight away he tried to justify himself, saying that these Russians "have no one to blame but themselves for putting their lives in danger" — by helping the Western democracies. He forgot one major difference: while he is in a comfortable cell with a computer and a television, giving audiences, with an air of importance, to visitors from all over the world, they are in unmarked graves.

Pete Earley's book shows just how dangerous tyrannical regimes can be when they attempt to corrupt Western democratic countries. It shows how important it is for the Civil Service to exclude people who are cynical, greedy or spiritually bankrupt and bereft of all ideals.

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CHANGING TIMES

Mannered baby-talk in the continuous present: **Ian McIntyre** on the unusual correspondence of two best-selling American authors

Collaborators in all but name

I have always found that a little of Gertrude Stein goes a long way. If anyone says "Rose is a rose is a rose, is a rose" in my hearing I have mild intimations of apoplexy. A professor of creative writing once explained that this fatuous line (published in *Tender Buttons* in 1914) represented a significant attempt to free poetry from the conventions of logic and grammar and give more direct expression to the quality of objects. Hm.

Gertrude Stein herself, in her *Lectures in America*, attempted to explain her stylistic experiments in prose. She was influenced by the pioneering psychologist William James, whose pupil she had been, and also by Henri Louis Bergson's concept of time; her theories, in turn, influenced the likes of Sherwood Anderson and Hemingway.

It was the business of art to live in "the complete actual present." Her prose resembles an assemblage of cinematic frames, a succession of largely repetitive phrases advancing the sense of what she sought to convey in painfully slow motion. Punctuation was an impediment; for the rhythmic patterns she was intent on creating she relied mainly on verbs. Nouns were the lumpenproletariat of language — "things once they are named the name does not go on doing anything to them and so why write in nouns".

THE LETTERS
OF
GERTRUDE STEIN
AND
THORNTON WILDER
Edited by Edward Burns
and Ulla E. Dydo
with William Rice
Yale University Press, £25
ISBN 0 300 06774 7

She met Thornton Wilder in Chicago in 1934. She was 60, he 36. She, with her lesbian lover Alice Babette Toklas, had spent the last 30 years in France, her salon frequented by painters as well as writers — Juan Gris, Matisse, Picasso. Wilder, with a much more conventional, strongly Protestant background, was teaching English at the university, and seven years previously had won wide popularity (and his first Pulitzer Prize) with *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*.

They were both best-selling authors, but they had little else in common and knew little of each other's work. The letters they exchanged over the ensuing 12 years chart the remarkable friendship that developed between them and offer glimpses of how each influenced — or attempted to influence — the other's writing.

ROGERS

Remarkable friendship: Stein and Wilder (1937)

Wilder emerges as what Scots call a bletherskite — "Well, I have paid you the tenuous compliment of writing you a letter when I have nothing to say." He burbles away over the years about everything under the sun: "Here I am, tiptoeing into adolescence at forty, so there's hope for me." Or again, "I am often struck with the fact that I do not suffer enough and am all too easily given to a blithe complacent absorption in the Trivia that interest me, like a sparrow enjoying himself in a dust-bath."

Almost all Wilder's letters are addressed to Stein and Toklas jointly — "Dear Bonnies over the Water," "Dear Apprentice Angels," "Dear Gertalicitude, dear Algertrudice." The relationship resembled that between a nephew and two indulgent aunts.

Stein's letters are written in a mannered baby-talk which reminds me of the Ant and Bee books I used to read to my children: "Here we are and shopping and then we leave on the 4 by the Champlain and we are sad most sad because we loved it, we really truly loved it, we loved it all and this summer we will tell each other about it each other includes you and you will be there ... " Her *Geographical History of America* is full of sentences like "In the United States there is more space where nobody is than where anybody is." She is the Grandma Moses of the written word.

What did they get out of it? Stein was eager to tap into Wilder's network of theatre connections and — surprisingly, given her idiosyncratic way with words — to persuade him into some form of literary collaboration: "Ever since my earliest days when I read Erckman Chatrian's *l'Ami Fritz* in what language I do not know I have loved the word collaborate and I always wanted to and now will you oh Thornton will you will you collaborate on Ida the Novel, we must do it together ... "

Wilder responded by suggesting that her influence on him was such that they already were collaborators in all but name: "This play is an immersion into a New Hampshire town. It's called *Our Town* and its third act is based on your ideas, as on great pillars, and whether you know it or not, until further notice, you're in a deep-knot collaboration already."

Some months later, in a letter beginning "Dear *Engelstoff*," he returns to her influence in a passage which succeeds in being simultaneously embarrassing and amusing: "Oh, what fun it is to be cudgelled by Gertrude, to be enlightened, and slapped, and warmed, and crushed, and slain, and brought alive by Gertrude. As the ladies of the invaded island in *L'île des Pengouins* cried: 'When do the atrocities begin?'"

Wilder described Stein's gift for conversation as akin to that of Goethe, Johnson or Coleridge. In the absence of any evidence of that in this addition to the "Henry McBride Series in Modernism and Modernity" we must take his word for it. And, in fairness, seek evidence from elsewhere. "Anyone who marries three girls from St Louis hasn't learnt much," she once remarked of Hemingway. She can't have been so tedious as the letters printed here suggest.

Run dry, the beloved country

Now that apartheid has gone, **R. W. Johnson** finds that some South African writers are left with little to say

There is something a little fraudulent about all three of these books. Those of us who actually live in South Africa have become wearily over-familiar with a new, if fleeting, literary genre of which the first two books form part: an ex-South African, long and permanently settled in other parts, make one or several trips back to the old country, write up their outpourings of memory and belonging, the agony and ecstacy of it all — and then depart for their real home, not too far from the Camden tube or the Odeon metro. (Breyten Breytenbach did this first — and incomparably well, but at least he lives and works here part of every year now). Justin Cartwright's book is the most intelligent and best written of the three but it already sounds a rather dated and exterior view.

The Brink collection both in its title and its cover (black youngsters sitting on a peeling poster of Mandela) suggests a brave contemporaneity but in fact consists mainly of articles from as far back as 1982. The fact is that Brink, like not a few other writers, looks at a bit of a loss these days. Far too many writers — and they not alone — were dangerously over-dependent on riding the old anti-apartheid warhorse and feel bereft by its ending. In the hottest hours of the anti-apartheid struggle many dissident souls threw their energies into religion or writing novels, plays or poetry because, at the end of the day, you could get away with all manner of things from the pulpit or in literature. Today — thank god for normalisation — the oomph has gone out of much of the writing and there are not a few abandoned pulpits.

EVERY SECRET
THING
My Family,
My Country
By Gillian Slovo
Little,Brown, £16.99
ISBN 0 316 63998 2

NOT YET HOME
A South African
Journey
By Justin Cartwright
Fourth Estate, £14.99
ISBN 1 85702 403 6

REINVENTING
A CONTINENT
By André Brink
Secker and Warburg, £10
ISBN 0 436 20367 7

Gilliam Slovo's book has a greater interest, however, for it is the story of her sad, indeed anguishing search for two lost parents, Ruth First and Joe Slovo — one lost to a murderous bomb, the other lost to cancer, but actually — and this is the real epicentre of the author's sadness — both lost much earlier as real parents to the higher claims of the anti-apartheid struggle. Lenin and Krupskaya, on getting married, resolved that since they would both be working full-time for the revolution, they must not have children but not many other revolutionaries have been so disciplined and the cost for the children is high.

Much of the book is taken up with Gillian Slovo's account of her mother and father viewed through a child's lense and through the harrowing scenes around Ruth's death, but it then progresses to an attempted exploration for them in contemporary South Africa. The result is extremely sharp. Her father, by then Housing Minister in the Mandela government, is furious at her prying and will tell her nothing. This is not altogether surprising for by then she is on the track of her father's and mother's ex-lovers, all of which comes tumbling out as a terrible surprise to her — making her feel even worse about her childhood when she realises that she was neglected not only for political reasons but for affairs of the heart. This culminates in a shaking meeting with a hitherto unknown half-brother, Joe's illegitimate child. Like not a few children before her, she quickly comes to accept this new reality as part of a larger picture.

But the hurt that will not die is her mother's murder and thus she tracks down the former BOSS agent, Craig Williamson, who accords her a long interview, frankly acknowledging that he was "part of the loop" in the planned assassination and giving her elaborate chapter and verse as to how it was done — while denying any final responsibility. Her account of the interview is studded with furious accusations against him as her mother's entirely personal murderer. This is way over the top: one feels sympathy for her rage and sorrow but nobody yet knows who exactly gave the order for Ruth's death. Similarly, one is a little at a loss to know how to feel about her earlier revelations for the truth is that there has for many years been plentiful gossip about Joe's affairs in particular and even about the existence of an illegitimate son. One is left with the feeling that she may have only scraped the surface and that a great deal remains to be learnt about South Africa's premier revolutionary couple.

MAGNUM PHOTOS

Supporters awaiting the arrival of Mandela, Lamontville 1994, from *Living Apart* by Ian Berry (Phaidon, 1996)

Silken terms precise

"THIS PLACE, Japan, where precisely is it?" Balbadiou raised the tip of his cane and pointed beyond the roofs of Saint-August. 'That way and keep going.' He said. 'Right to the end of the world.'"

It is 1861, Hervé Joncour is a silk merchant in the French town of Lavilledieu, and Balbadiou is his mentor. When the world supply of silkworm eggs is decimated, Jancour travels four times to the one place unaffected: the end of the world, Japan. There he buys worm eggs "Attached to hundreds of slivers of mulberry bark" and transports them back across Siberia and the Urals, arriving back "On the first Sunday in April, in time for High Mass. He entered the town on foot, counting his steps, that each might have a name, and that he might never forget them."

In this slim volume Baricco cuts his prose thin and fine. The chapters come one to a page as Hervé Joncour returns again and again to Japan, obsessed not with silk but with the face of a girl. At their best, the sections have a clarity which resembles poetry, and no poetry so much as Japanese haiku, as in chapter 49 (quoted whole): "Nothing but silence on the road. The corpse of a little boy on the ground. A man kneeling. Until the last glimmer of daylight."

Tobias Hill

SILK
By Alessandro Baricco
Harvill, £6.99
ISBN 1 86046 310 X

There is a sense of language intentionally created to be like silk — not the simple adjective "Silky", but the material itself: raw, dense and clear. There are extraordinary narrative devices — line breaks, journeys from Japan to France compressed into 20 lines, a Spanish architect who speaks in questions, and the fairytale repetition of arrivals and departures as Joncour travels to and from the end of the world. Japan, too, is presented as the otherworld of folk-tales, where time almost seems to pass at a different rate. The result is the mixture of the fabulous and prosaic found in Marquez and in the best childrens' fiction — *The Little Prince* or Patrick Suskind's *The Story of Mister Summer*. Baricco has created a story of "Sea-voyages, the smell of mulberries at Lavilledieu, steam trains", but most of all of impossible love, "Something capable of lifting a life off its hinges."

Only one thing false about this Fair Lady

The early fifties was an unlikely time for Audrey Hepburn to emerge as a Hollywood sex starlet. The ideal romantic film heroine of the time, for American directors and audiences alike, was based upon the pneumatic pin-ups demobbed GIs brought back from the war. She should best be a leggy, blinking, big-hearted, full-bosomed, homely bottle-blonde. In brief, she should be Marilyn Monroe.

While casting directors were prepared to accept some minor amendments to this winning formula — Jane Russell, for instance, was allowed her darkened locks, Grace Kelly her *froideur*, Elizabeth Taylor her legs — there was no getting around the need for sumptuous curves. Audrey Hepburn, however, had none. She was moderately tall, slim to the point of anxiety, her eyebrows were unplucked and her snuggle teeth had avoided the intervention of American orthodontistry. And she was flat-chested. *Photoplay* logged her at a mere 32 inches. When William Wyler, who directed her in her first American picture, *Roman Holiday*, suggested to her, "I think you should wear some falsies, if you don't mind me saying," she replied, "I am!"

Nicholas Wapshott

AUDREY HEPBURN
By Barry Paris
Weidenfeld, £20
ISBN 0 297 81728 0

The appeal to American audiences was largely her other-worldliness. Half Irish, half Dutch, her gamine looks made her appear starkly exotic next to Hollywood's sumptuous home-grown actresses. Trained as a dancer, Hepburn maintained a dancer's emaciated figure and she looked just fine barefooted in a black leotard. While some part of her attraction was her lack of maturity, her girlishness, another was her blatant boyishness, which she emphasised with close-cropped hair and the apparent absence of face make-up. It is little wonder that Hubert de Givenchy and Cecil Beaton found her the perfect clothes-horse.

Unlike her more knowing American rivals, Hepburn maintained an air of studied innocence which was largely genuine. While her early conquests included the Yorkshire industrialist James Hanson, who nearly made it to the altar with her, others, among them the insatiable William Holden, recorded that she was not much interested in sex. While this virginal quality stood her in good stead for a string of hits, such as *Sabrina*, *Funny Face*, *My Fair Lady* and above all *The Nun's Story*, it totally inverted the meaning of *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Her rendering of Holly Golightly, Truman Capote's tough, trashy tart with a heart, became an anodyne androgyne. Capote moaned, "It bore about as much resemblance to my work as the Rockettes do to Ulanova."

REX FEATURES

An air of studied innocence: Audrey Hepburn on the set of *Love in the Afternoon* (1957)

Accounts of Hepburn's life keep coming. Barry Paris's is, by my reckoning, at least the ninth — and Weidenfeld's second hearse-chaser in three years. There are irritating mistakes — "Lord James Hanson" throughout — and some ill considered statements — "The suffering of English Fascists, at its worst, was nothing compared to the Nazi crimes against the Jews" — and Paris is perhaps too trusting of the showbusiness myth machine. Hepburn may have been "discovered" in a hotel foyer by the French grand-dame Colette with the words "Voila! There is my Gigi", but I doubt it.

Also left largely unexplained is the political context of Hepburn's upbringing. Her parents were devoted to Oswald Mosley, the British fascist, and were so thick with the Nazis that, while touring Germany with Unity Mitford, among others, they were granted an audience with Hitler. On the outbreak of war Hepburn's mother was in London. Without hesitation she scampered back to Holland with her daughter, where, in the absence of her husband, who was interned in Britain, she dated German officers of the occupying army. Yet, without so much as a gear-change, Paris reports that Audrey Hepburn soon became a courier for the Underground, smuggling notes in her shoes.

While Paris is as thorough in his research as is to be expected from an American journalist and Slavic linguist working out of Pittsburgh, and stories from the glorious Billy Wilder (director of *Sabrina*) constantly bring a smile, the wealth of detail disguises Paris's inability to get to the heart of what it was about Hepburn that has made her such an enduring icon. But perhaps only pictures can do that.

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هكذا من الاهل

RUGBY UNION

Club connection could work in England's favour

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

FRIENDS and colleagues they may have been, but Jack Rowell and Phil de Glanville, the England captain, do not perceive Brian Ashton's knowledge of English rugby to be the most serious threat that awaits England in Dublin on Saturday.

On the contrary, de Glanville said yesterday. He will expect to recognise some of Bath's influence in Ireland's play. Rowell, Ashton and de Glanville overlapped at Bath for three years before Rowell's departure to England.

"Brian is a shrewd man and knows more than anyone else about England's players," de Glanville said. "He will have briefed Ireland, individually, better than any other coach has had the opportunity to do, but I don't think there are any moves from Bath that England use.

"I would not be surprised to see Ireland using moves which have come from Bath — we have seen one or two already, in their matches with France and Wales."

Rowell expects Ashton to bring a degree of organisation to an Ireland team buoyant after victory in Cardiff and encouraged by the likely recovery from injury of Jonathan Bell, David Corkery and Nick Popplewell.

"Brian is an achieving coach, who has excelled at club level and now has an opportunity at international level," Rowell said. "The Ashton style will add to their [Ireland's] thrust and organisation, but the game has changed since we worked together, not least because of professionalism."

The England squad hopes to finalise playing contracts with the Rugby Football Union (RFU) within the next fortnight and it is de Glanville's hope that, after the championship, the RFU will make a coaching appointment that will take England up to the 1999 World Cup. Such appointments are made on a rolling, annual basis, on the recommendation of the national playing committee, but de Glanville, who believes that it should be a full-time position, believes that the incumbent must be given a two-year contract.

"Jack Rowell has the full support of the players, but it's up to him whether he wants to continue," de Glanville said. "He's very shrewd and his rugby brain is outstanding. You look around and who else is there? There has to be a balance between security and allowing the men who hire and fire the necessary flexibility if things go wrong"

Wales, who have not won in Paris since 1975, will seldom have a better opportunity to do so than on Saturday against a French team replete with change. The XV confirmed yesterday contains six who did not appear against Ireland last month, five because of injury and one enforced by the one-match suspension of Franck Tournaire, the Narbonne prop. Added to that are the long-term injuries to Philippe Saint-André, Olivier Roumat and Olivier Brouzet and the departure to England of such experienced players as Laurent Cabannes and Thierry Lacroix.

Yet Brive, in the Heineken Cup final, displayed qualities that will serve France well at half back, where Christophe Lamaison and Philippe Carbonneau are paired.

Ireland and England have each been forced by injury to make changes for the A international at Donnybrook tomorrow. Eddie Halvey and Mick Galwey are out of the Ireland pack, their places at flanker and lock being taken, respectively, by Stuart Duncan and Shane Leahy, while Scott Benton replaces Kyran Bracken as England's scrum half and will be paired with Mark Mapletoft, his club colleague at Gloucester.

FRANCE (v Wales): J-L Sadourny (Colomiers); L Leflamand (Bourgoin), R Dourthe (Dax), S Glas (Bourgoin), D Venditti (Brive); C Lamaison (Brive), P Carbonneau (Brive); C Califano (Toulouse), M Dal Maso (Agen), J-L Jordana (Toulouse), A Benazzi (Agen, captain), O Merle (Montferrand), H Miorin (Toulouse), R Castel (Béziers), F Pelous (Dax). Replacements: S Viars (Brive), D Aucagne (Pau), G Accoceberry (Bègles-Bordeaux), O Magne (Dax), P Tréep-Capdevielle (Pau), M de Rougemont (Toulon).

Bath add Woodward to coaching panel

CLIVE WOODWARD, the former London Irish coach, will be part of a restructured team at Bath in the wake of the abrupt departure on Tuesday of John Hall (David Hands writes). There will be no direct replacement for Hall as director of rugby because Bath feel they now have the appropriate management personnel in place to cover his dismissal, with Tony Swift as chief executive and Alison Holdoway as player administrator.

Whether Woodward, 41, will provide the balance the club needs remains to be seen. He is strong-willed with well-defined principles on how the game should be played; he also brings experience not only from his international background as a centre with England and the British Isles but from having spent several seasons with Manly, the Sydney club.

He will complement the two forwards, Andy Robinson and Nigel Redman, with whom he will be working, though the demands on Robinson suggest he will not continue to coach the England Under-21 team, which includes five Bath players for tomorrow's meeting with Ireland. Woodward attended the players' meeting on Monday, when a post mortem on the recent Pilkington Cup defeat by Leicester was held.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 (v Ireland at Greystones, tomorrow): R Hitchmough (Orrell); L Lloyd (Leicester), J Ewens (Bath), M Perry (Bath), T Beim (Sale); P Sampson (Wasps), J O'Reilly (Sale); M Worsley (Orrell), A Long (Bath), C Horsman (Bath), S Pearce (Gloucester), C Murphy (West Hartlepool, captain), C Gillies (Bath), J Worsley (Wasps), R Winters (Bedford). Replacements: M Wood (West Hartlepool), K Sorrell (Saracens), C Harrison (Bath), D Hardcastle (Wakefield), R Protherough (Worcester), T Woodman (Gloucester), P Gustard (Blaydon).

DAVID ROGERS / ALLSPORT

Ashton makes a point to Eric Miller, the Ireland No 8, during a training session in Limerick this week

Ashton full of mischievous intent

David Hands looks at the mind game behind the scenes in Dublin this weekend

Jack Rowell and Brian Ashton were a complementary team. As little as five weeks ago, the compliments flew, too, as Rowell mused on the possibility of finding a place in the England coaching hierarchy for Ashton, his former partner at Bath. Now they prepare their respective national teams to beat each other in the third round of matches of the five nations' championship on Saturday.

Rowell has had charge of England since March 1994; Ashton has been coaching advisor to Ireland since January 9. "The irony of it struck me immediately the final whistle went at Cardiff [where Ireland beat Wales 26-25 in the second round of games]," Ashton said. "I thought: 'Here we go, Jack Rowell and Phil de Glanville' as opposed to England; but I'm a professional man, my job is to help Ireland to beat England.

"I feel quite mischievous about it. It's something pretty exciting, which shouldn't be happening, but it is . . . so let's get on with it."

Ashton engenders the wide-eyed glee of a child let loose in a toy factory at Christmas at the prospect of preparing the men in green to play the men in white, although time has not been on his side this year. What time he has had, though, he has made the most of. In six working days with the Ireland team, he joined forces with Mike Brewer, the former New Zealand back-row forward, and encouraged a competitive display against France, then squeezed a one-point victory over Wales.

"It's a question of giving players responsibility with accountability, not one without the other," Ashton, 50, said. "I'm not sure Ireland's players were used to that."

Ashton, with a group of players few of whom he knew as individuals, had to identify their qualities and marry them to the weaknesses of the next opponent. His team took on France for an hour before subsiding, but, when Ashton analysed the video, he was annoyed to discover that Ireland had turned over possession 16 times, six of those in the last seven minutes, from which France scored two tries.

He is, you suspect, an idealist in his approach to rugby. For Bath this season he projected a vision of total rugby which, when it succeeded, swept away opponents on floods of points, but which allowed players to forget some of the primary chores of defence. The idealism remains, but is tinged with the reality of international sport.

"There's only one result that counts at the end and that's winning — not how you win, just winning," Ashton said. "Before the Welsh match, I talked to them about personal responsibility, about honesty — when they get off the field, they have to be able to say: 'I gave everything I had physically, mentally, technically and tactically for Ireland.' If you can't do that, you're not being honest and if you're not honest, you shouldn't be playing."

Ashton carries no baggage with him into Ireland; he has — as yet — no long-term contract; he can tell the truth, however ugly. He does not pretend that they can suddenly be world beaters, but he does expect to see them taking decisions and playing their part in running the game.

He knows that certain players in the England ranks at Lansdowne Road — particularly those he coached at Bath — will have those talents. "It would be very easy to fall into the trap of thinking that I can predict what Jack Rowell will do, but he's an unpredictable man," Ashton said. "I'm on the same wavelength as him in our approach to players and how the game should develop; we made an excellent team. We had a comfortable relationship, but this is not Bath, it's England, who don't play like Bath do and the Bath players don't play for England as they do for Bath.

"England's weapon is the sheer size and strength of their players. If we give them time and space to generate momentum, they will be difficult to stop, but what I can tell my players, individually, is that, for 80 minutes on a given Saturday afternoon, they are better than the guy opposite them. They've done it once, against Robert Howley, Scott Gibbs, Scott Quinnell, who are not bad players. Now they have to do it again."

RUGBY LEAGUE

Newcastle invest £1m in Tuigamala

By Christopher Irvine

THE transfer of Va'aiga Tuigamala from Wigan to Newcastle rugby union club should be completed next week. The £1 million deal is the biggest in either rugby code and the Western Samoa centre is expected to make his debut in the Courage Clubs Championship second division at home to Wakefield, on March 8.

Tuigamala, 27, is due at Newcastle in the build-up to the club's home Pilkington Cup match against Leicester on Saturday week. However, he is cup-tied, having played for Wasps against Rugby earlier in the competition.

The £500,000 transfer fee for the former All Black exceeds the record £440,000 paid to Widnes by Wigan for Martin Offiah, in 1992. His three-year contract involves an additional £300,000 and Newcastle must also pay back the player's £180,000 Super League "loyalty" payment.

Tuigamala will join Pat Lam, the Western Samoa captain, at Kingston Park and while Wigan, still £3.3 million in debt, were in no position to refuse the offer, the addition of the player to Newcastle's elite stable is intended to further promote interest in rugby union in the area and ensure the side fills one of two automatic promotion places.

The deal is still subject to financial fine-tuning and final sanction by the Wigan board, but Jack Robinson, the Wigan chairman, said there was no longer any point fighting to keep a player whose heart was not in staying. That much was evident in Tuigamala's disappointing display last Saturday in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup defeat at St Helens.

Wigan hope that money from Tuigamala's sale will keep Jason Robinson at Central Park. However, the Australian Rugby League could insist that the Great Britain wing honours the contract he is due to take up in June.

Bobbie Goulding is staying at St Helens after withdrawing a transfer request. Today, the Great Britain scrum half goes before the Rugby Football League disciplinary committee for his dismissal for a high tackle in the cup-tie against Wigan.

Sheehan on Bridge

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

This hand is from the trials for the England team for the Macallan Camrose Trophy, the home international tournament. Several pairs attempted Four Hearts on the North-South cards.

Dealer West **Game all** **IMPs**

♠A 10 8 4 3 2
♥8 4
♦10
♣J 9 6 3

♠K 7 5
♥J 7 6
♦9 8 4
♣Q 10 8 4

N
W E
S

♠J 9 6
♥Q 3 2
♦K 5 3
♣A 7 5 2

♠Q
♥A K 10 9 5
♦A Q J 7 6 2
♣K

Contract: Four Hearts by South **Lead: Four of clubs**

When Senior and I were South and North, Senior opened One Diamond in fourth position, and subsequently bid hearts twice to show five hearts and therefore six diamonds; I raised to Four Hearts. West found the best lead of a club and, after taking the ace, East accurately returned the suit. How should declarer play after ruffing the second club?

As he is down to four trumps, declarer must establish the diamonds without losing a trick in the suit. If he loses a diamond, the defence will play another club (the queen if necessary), forcing declarer to ruff. Now, after he cashes the ace and king of hearts, the defence will have two trumps to his one, so he will not be in a position to run the diamonds.

If the diamonds break 3-3, it is a toss-up who to play for the king. Not wishing to open up the spades to give the defence another suit in which to force him, Senior played the ace and ran the queen of diamonds. When that lost to East's king, a fourth club put him out of control.

There is a better line. Cross to dummy with the ace of spades and finesse the queen of diamonds. Then ruff a diamond. That brings in the diamonds when East has the king and they break 3-3 — so far no better chance than Senior's line — but the extra possibilty is that East may have started with king doubleton.

Here, the diamond king does not appear on the second round, so declarer plays the ace and king of trumps. Then, he plays the ace of diamonds. When that drops the king, he continues diamonds. The defenders score their trumps separately, but they take only three tricks in all.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

QUAESTUARY
a. A medieval riddle book
b. The Quest Theme
c. A profiteer

CONTRECTATION
a. Conspiracy to defraud
b. Caressing
c. Sleeping with the enemy

CURMUDGEON
a. A mongrel dog
b. A grumpy old man
c. A Thames mudcomber

NULLIBIETY
a. Lack of doubt
b. Being nowhere
c. Illiberality

Answers on page 50

Keene on Chess

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Two at the top

After seven rounds of the Linares tournament, Kasparov and Kramnik have powered away from the rest of the field and jointly lead with 5½ points. In the seventh round, Kasparov easily disposed of Michael Adams, the Briton, while Kramnik defeated Judit Polgar, the early leader. Playing Black against Kramnik in a King's Indian Defence, Polgar emerged from the opening with what seemed to be a highly satisfactory position. However, she then overplayed her hand.

Nevertheless, the most brilliant game of the round was undoubtedly the win by Topalov, the Bulgarian grandmaster, against Gelfand. After a sharp opening, Topalov launched into a series of amazing tactics designed to expose the white king. At one point, he even allowed an undefended rook to be captured with check, in the interests of pursuing his attack. The final position is extraordinary, in that Black has two queens on the board in the middlegame.

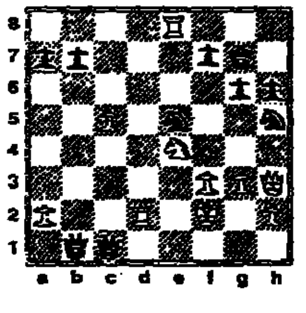
White: Boris Gelfand
Black: Veselin Topalov
Linares, February 1997

King's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	Nf3	g6
3	c4	Bg7
4	Nc3	0-0
5	e4	d6
6	Be2	e5
7	Be3	exd4
8	Nxd4	Re8
9	f3	c6
10	Bf2	d5
11	exd5	cxd5
12	0-0	Nc6
13	c5	Nh5
14	g3	Bh3
15	Re1	Qg5
16	Ndb5	Rad8
17	Nd6	Bd4
18	Qc1	Be3
19	Bxe3	Rxe5
20	Kf2	d4
21	Nd1	Rxe2+
22	Rxe2	Qd5
23	Ne4	Ne5
24	Qg5	Re8
25	Rd2	Qc4
26	Ndc3	h6
27	Qh4	dxc3
28	Rd8	cxb2
29	Rxe8+	Kg7
30	Rd1	Qc2+
31	Rd2	b1Q
32	Qc8	Qcc1

White resigns

Diagram of final position



The most remarkable moment of the game came when Black made the bishop sacrifice on move 17. His intention was that, after 17, . . . Bd4; 18, Bxd4 Nxg3, the defences around White's king are blown away.

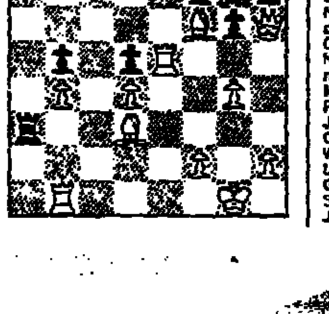
Ubeda

After three rounds of the tournament in Ubeda, Lautier and Khalifman share the lead with 2½ points.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



White to play. This position is from the game Karpesov — Vasiukov, St Petersburg, 1994. How did White make the most of his menacing array of forces on the kingside?

Solution on page 50

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

European under-21 championship

Qualifying group two

ENGLAND (0) 1 ITALY (0) 0
Eadie 51 13,850
Sent off: I Franceschini (Italy), 44min
(at Ashton Gate, Bristol)

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division

POSTPONED: Raith Rovers v Motherwell

First division

POSTPONED: Falkirk v Airdrieonians.

Second division

POSTPONED: Brechin v Hamilton

Third division

ROSS COUNTY (0) 0 INVERNESS CT (2) 3
McLean 25, 61
Wilson 42

POSTPONED: Albion v Alloa; East Stirling v Arbroath.

WORLD CUP: South American qualifying group: Ecuador 4 Uruguay 0.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Portsmouth 4 Norwich 1; Crystal Palace 4 Cardiff 0. Postponed: Charlton v Arsenal; Swansea v Bristol Rovers.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Liverpool 3 Leeds 2. First division: Huddersfield 2 Wolverhampton 2. Second division: Barnsley 5 Mansfield 2. Postponed: Bradford v York; Shrewsbury v Rotherham. League cup: Group 1: Wigan 1 Burnley 2. Postponed: Oldham v Carlisle. League cup: League cup: Group 4: Lincoln 1 Chesterfield 0. League cup: Group 5: Leicester 2 Walsall 0.

Tuesday's late results

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Quarter-finals: Northern section: Bury 1 Stockport County 2 (aet); Shrewsbury Town 2 Scunthorpe United 1 (aet). Southern section: Plymouth Argyle 0 Northampton Town 2. Watford 2 Bristol City 1.
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Bath City 3 Hayes 1; Macclesfield Town 4 Hednesford Town 0; Stalybridge Celtic 2 Southport 2.
FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second-round replays: Dorchester Town 3 Salisbury 2; Emley 1 Kidderminster Harriers 5; Woking 3 St Albans 1; Guiseley 1 Welling United 0 (aet)
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Enfield 4 Bromley 3. Oxford City 0 Boreham Wood 0. First division: Aldershot 1 Thame 0; Canvey Island 1 Barton 2; Wokingham 0 Berkhamsted 1. Second division: Horsham 3 Ware 2.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Baldock 1 Nuneaton 2; Burton Albion 2 Worcester 2; Cheltenham 2 Halesowen 1; Gresley 0 King's Lynn 2. Cup: Fourth round: RC Warwick 1 Ilkeston Tn 0. Midland division: Tamworth 2 Grantham 0. Southern division: Fisher (London) 3 Erith and Belvedere 2.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Lancaster 1 Barrow 0. First division: Atherton LR 3 Curzon Ashton 3. Warrington 1 Leigh 1. League Cup: Fourth round: Accrington Stanley 0 Radcliffe Borough 0. President's Cup: Second-round replay: Farsley Celtic 2 Boston United 1 (aet).
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Oxford United 0 Ipswich Town 1.
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Stoke City 0 Birmingham City 2. Cup: Group four: Doncaster Rovers 1 Grimsby Town 2. Group five: Notts County 1 Derby County 1
FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Derry City 5 UCD 0
LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham 4 Harefield 1.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chadderton 1 St Helens 0; Holker OB 1 Rossendale 1; Maine Road 0 Newcastle Town 3. Cup: Third-round replay: Glossop North End 2 Nantwich 3.
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Biggleswade 1 Arlesey 5
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Fakenham 2 Warboys 1. Wroxham 1 Lowestoft 0
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Eynesbury 0 Spalding 0
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover 1 Whitchurch United 1; Wimborne 3 Thatcham 1.
INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Boldmere St Michaels 2 Stratford 0; Bridgnorth 2 Chasetown 1; Hinckley 2 Rushall 2; W Midlands Police 0 Rocester 2.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Slade Green 0 Corinthian 0; Whitstable 0 Deal 0; Faversham 0 Thamesmead 3.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Burgess Hill 3 Langney Sp 0.
EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group six: Spain 1 Malta 0. (in Cartagena)

BADMINTON

NEW DELHI: Indian Open: First round: Men: Tam Kai Chuen (HK) bt A S Gupta (India) 8-15, 15-8, 15-11; S Jain (India) bt Tam Lok Tin (HK) 15-18, 15-10, 15-3; Wong Choon Hann (Malaysia) bt D Bhattacharya (India) 18-15, 17-18, 15-11; V Patwardhan (India) bt Yap Yee Hup (Malaysia) 15-12, 15-12. Women: Chor Ma-Rea (S Kor) bt F Gallup (Eng) 4-11, 11-4, 11-4; A Popat (India) bt Park So-Yan (S Kor) 11-6, 11-6; M Kanwar (India) bt L Winnie (Malaysia) 11-3, 12-11.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 105 Philadelphia 94; New Jersey 104 Orlando 96. New York 97 Washington 92; Miami 104 Detroit 91. Chicago 103 Charlotte 100; San Antonio 111 Dallas 97. Houston 105 Vancouver 97; Milwaukee 101 Toronto 95; Portland 111 Phoenix 108; Seattle 108 Denver 81. LA Clippers 116 Boston 112; Utah 120 Sacramento 98.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Hobart (second day of four): South Australia 387 (B A Johnson 91), J C Scuderi 70). Tasmania 136-5 (R T Ponting 76 not

CYCLING

TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN: First stage (103km from Béziers to La Grande Motte). 1, M Cipollini (It, Saeco) 2hr 11min 28sec; 2, M Strazzer (It, Roslotto); 3, F Baldato (It, MG Technogym); 4, E Leoni (It, AKI); 5, L Giovanni (It, Telekom); 6, S Barthe (Fr, Casino) all same time.

GOLF

LA MANGA, Spain: Stoneleaver Masters: Leading two-round scores: 139: D Park (Burghill Valley) 68, 71. 140: B Taylor (Thorpe Hall) 71, 69. 142: L Donald (Beaconsfield) 72, 70. 143: R Finch (Hull) 73, 70; G Wolstenholme (Kilworth Springs) 73, 70. Other score: 151: N Mansell (Woodbury Park) 79, 72.

HOCKEY

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: British Police 3 Civil Service 1 (Hatton).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): NY Islanders 5 Ottawa 5 (OT), Colorado 3 Los Angeles 1; Calgary 5 Boston 1; Washington 5 Vancouver 2.

RUGBY UNION

ANGLO-WELSH CUP: Pool 2B: Postponed: Treorchy v Saracens.
CLUB MATCH: Oxford University 25 Army 47.

SKIING

SESTRIERE, Italy: World championships: Men: Giant slalom: 1, M von Grünigen (Switz) (1min 23.31sec, 1:24.92) 2min 48.23sec; 2, L Kjus (Nor) (1:24.59, 1:24.76) 2:49.35; 3, A Schifferer (Austria) (1:25.05, 1:24.63) 2:49.68; 4, S Locher (Switz) (1:24.43, 1:25.28) 2:49.71; 5, P Accola (Switz) (1:25.17, 1:24.97) 2:50.14. Did not finish: A Bexter (GB).

SQUASH

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Group A: Denham Wine Queens Halifax 4 Tamworth Street Motors Duffield 1 (Halifax names first: D Campion bt A Abou Taleb 9-1, 2-9, 9-2, 9-3; M Barrett bt M Allen 5-9, 9-1, 9-4, 4-9, 9-6; L Beachill bt J Russell 9-1, 9-2, 9-2; M Blowers bt K Whee 9-0, 10-8, 9-7; Emma Wild lost to Robyn Cooper 1-9, 5-9, 0-9); Morrells Distributors Bishop's Stortford 5 Irwin Mitchell Hallamshire 0 (Bishop's Stortford names first: J Nicolle bt P Lord 9-3, 9-1, 9-3; B Ford bt M Hornby 9-7, 9-2, 9-3; J Robbins bt N Matthew 9-5, 9-6, 9-5; B Beit bt N Wall 9-5, 9-3, 9-1. Rebecca Macree bt Janie Thacker 5-9, 9-3, 9-1, 9-7) League positions: Group A: 1, Bishop Stortford 31pts; 2, Halifax 30; 3, Potters Bar 27. Group B: 1, Chichester 25; 2, Devon and Exeter 18; 3, Broxbourne 18.

TENNIS

DUBAI: Men's tournament: First round: J Novak (Cz) bt C Moya (Sp) 2-6, 6-0, 7-5; A Costa (Sp) bt D Prinosil (Ger) 6-2, 6-4; B Becker (Ger) bt M Göllner (Ger) 6-2, 6-7, 6-2; P Cash (Aus) bt C Costa (Sp) 7-6, 7-6; J Courier (US) bt A Medvedev (Ukr) 6-3, 6-3; S Stolle (Aus) bt D Rikl (Cz) 7-5, 6-3; J Henrik Davids (Holl) bt R Furlan (It) 6-4, 7-6.
SAN JOSE, California: Men's tournament: First round: P Sampras (US) bt A Radulescu (Ger) 7-6, 6-3; D Nestor (Can) bt R Wolters (US) 6-0, 6-1.
MARSEILLES: Men's tournament: First round: A Chesnokov (Russ) bt O Delaître (Fr) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; M Larsson (Swe) bt F Clavet (Sp) 2-6, 6-4 6-3; S Bruguera (Sp) bt C Pioline (Fr) 6-1, 6-7, 6-1; L Roux (Fr) bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-1, 2-6, 6-4; T Enqvist (Swe) bt P Fredriksson (Swe) 6-1, 6-2; P Korda (Cz) bt F Roig (Belg) 4-6, 6-4, 7-6; M Rosset (Switz) bt G Schaller (Aut) 6-1, 6-4.
PARIS: Women's tournament: First round: K Habsudova (Slovakia) bt N Dechy (Fr) 2-6, 6-4, 6-3; C Rubin (US) bt N Arendt (US) 6-1, 6-1; Y Basuki (India) bt B Schett (Ger) 6-4, 7-5; N Tauziat (Fr) bt F Labat (Arg) 6-1, 6-2. Second round: M Hingis (Switz) bt S Farina (It) 6-3, 6-4.
CHIGWELL: Men's satellite tournament: Second round (Great Britain unless stated): N Weal b M Hill (Aus) 7-6, 7-5; C Pressley (US) bt I Gaudi (It) 6-2, 6-3; M Stadling (Swe) bt C Beecher 6-3, 6-4; C Haggard (SA) bt A Parmar 7-5, 6-3; D van Uffelen (Bel) bt D Draper 6-0, 6-3; T Spinks bt I Tchelychev (Russ) 6-4, 5-7, 7-5; A Richardson bt R Chess (US) 6-2, 6-7, 6-3; A Foster bt M Hantschk (Ger) 1-6, 6-4, 7-6; T Larkham (Aus) bt P Erhardt (Ger) 6-4, 6-1; T Ketola (Fin) bt M Bertolini (It) 6-4, 5-7, 6-4.
BIRMINGHAM: Women's satellite tournament: Second round: K Cross (GB) b K Gruse (Aus) 2-6, 6-4, 6-1; S-A Siddall (GB) bt J Choudhury (GB) 6-4, 7-6; L Latimer (GB) bt S Georges (Fr) 6-1, 7-6; L Ahl (GB) bt L Woodroffe (GB) 7-5, 6-4; T Poutchek (Bela) bt J Ward (GB) 6-1, 6-2; J Lutrova (Russ) bt J Pullin (GB) 6-1, 3-6, 6-0; O Ivanova (Russ) bt E Bond (GB) 7-5, 6-2; C Taylor (GB) bt H Matthews (GB) 6-1, 6-4.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble Chance Pool (maximum points 20): 12 prizes of £85,176.00 (20 points); 709 prizes of £147.10 (19 points); 14,902 prizes of £6.05 (18 points), 111,178 prizes of £1.40 (17 points). Half-time result: 53 prizes of £4,702.20 (22 points maximum) 78 prizes of £48.85 (4 draws); 16 prizes of £320.95 (10 homes); 548 prizes of £14.40 (5 aways).

VERNONS: Treble Chance (Maximum points 20). 20 points £82,758.65; 19 points £85.90; 18 points £7.60. (Treble chance dividends to units of 5/11p). Super shots £58.00 (Dividend to units of 12.5p). Premier 10 £68.80 (paid on 8 correct) Dividend to units of 50p.

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 20pts £3,419.95, 19 £12.85, 18 £1.00. Three dividends only — see Rule 9(a). Eight aways: 24pts £25.35, 23 £1.00. Two dividends only — see Rule 9(d). Four draws (Nothing barred): £52.20. Eight Homes (Nothing Barred) £12.70. Four aways £5.00. Super 7 £100,000. Lucky Numbers: 14, 36, 21, 22, 15, 4.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Obergurgl	30	140	good	crusty	good	sun	0	11/2
(Pistes in good condition; some new snow)								
Schladming	20	40	good	heavy	fair	snow	4	12/2
(New snow on mid/upper slopes; more snow forecast)								
Söll	15	45	worn	none	closed	fair	2	6/2
(Warm weather not allowing snow machines to operate)								
FRANCE								
Méribel	55	135	good	varied	slushy	sun	6	5/2
(Lower runs very slushy; heavy snowfalls forecast)								
La Tania	100	135	fair	varied	slushy	sun	5	5/2
(Heavy conditions with slushy snow below 2,000 metres)								
Val d'Isère	95	200	good	varied	good	sun	3	12/2
(Some new snow but windblown; generally very good)								
ITALY								
Cortina	25	100	good	heavy	worn	sun	6	26/1
(Lowest runs very worn but good above 1,500 metres)								
Livigno	85	180	good	varied	good	fair	-1	12/2
(Good skiing overall but some icy patches)								
Geilo	50	50	good	varied	hard	fine	-4	9/2
(All lifts and runs open; generally good skiing)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	30	295	good	varied	worn	fine	4	11/2
(Upper runs remain good; lower wearing)								
Saas Fee	60	310	good	varied	fair	fair	2	11/2
(High winds closing some lifts, snow still mostly good)								
Verbier	45	170	good	varied	slushy	sun	5	5/2
(High slopes still good; lower very worn)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain

L - lower slopes; U - upper.

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RACING: HAPPIER TIMES AHEAD FOR YOUNG NORTHERN TRAINER AFTER BLEAK SPELL

Swinbank eyes bumper payout

By James Willoughby

PETER BYRNE

Swinbank keeps an eye on her stable star, Colour Code, who is being aimed at the Festival Bumper at Cheltenham

ANN SWINBANK has endured some of the bleakest hours that anyone who lives with horses can suffer. She has emerged as one of the most promising young trainers in the North.

Swinbank, 32, has sent out 20 winners from a 35-strong team this jumps season, her fifth and easily most successful campaign. Next month, her best horse, Colour Code, puts his unbeaten record on the line in the Festival Bumper at Cheltenham. These are exciting times for the Liverpudlian: they might have come earlier had circumstance not intervened.

She had just concluded her first campaign with a handful of promising horses and a fistful of optimism when it struck. First there was coughing and the odd runny nose, then the horses at Thorndale Farm, near Darlington, developed the debilitating symptoms of equine herpes. They had contracted two forms of the virus and their condition was worsened by strangles, a choking inflammation of the throat glands. It is a potent alliance from which few horses emerge unscathed.

"All I could do was stand there and watch my horses go down one by one," Swinbank recalled. "Happy, healthy horses I had invested years in reduced to heaving wrecks. One horse had to be shot it became so ill, and none of the others is still here."

Swinbank was told the virus could take years to depart and that it might be best if she quit. But even at the height of her melancholy, she never entertained thoughts of giving up.

"It made me so ill and very depressed, but I had to carry on for my peace of mind. I had set out on the road to be a racehorse trainer and I knew I could never feel the same about anything again if I quit."

It took most of the next season before the virus cleared. They were frustrating times for a trainer keen to get on, but Swinbank remembers that, if nothing else, the turbulence gave her a broader outlook. "It didn't teach me anything about horses but it taught me about life. You have got to know the long, dark days to appreciate the short, bright ones," she said.

She stoically began rebuilding her career, drawing on her experience as a bloodstock agent to find new horses. One of the first she tried to buy was Cezanne, the subsequent Irish Champion Stakes winner, but he was sent to Dubai instead. Cezanne's half-brother, Colorful Ambition, came up for sale the next year and Swinbank completed his purchase. The powerful bay has been a mainstay of the yard, winning on the Flat and over hurdles.

This family connection was furthered with last year's acquisition of Colour Code, out of the same mare, for 26,000 guineas from Michael Stoute's yard. The striking chestnut was too immature to race on the Flat but his ability was not in question.

"A week before he was due to run, we took Colour Code to Kelso for a gallop with Colorful Ambition, who had never been beaten in his work. Colour Code slaughtered him," Swinbank said.

Colour Code won a National Hunt flat race at Carlisle on his debut in November by five lengths, going away. He was even more impressive under a penalty at Haydock last month, running clean away from a good field. Next stop for the five-year-old is Cheltenham.

"Colour Code is a very classy horse and if he gets to Cheltenham in top form he is going to run a big race. It would mean everything to a yard like this to win the Festival Bumper, but after what I have been through, the race I most want to win is the next one."

[illegible]

Nap: ROYAL RAVEN
(4.50 Sandown Park)
Next best: Doctoor
(3.10 Sandown Park)

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

2.00 Juyush
2.35 Hawaiian Sam
3.10 ROYAL EVENT (nap)
3.45 Garrylough
4.15 Howaryasun
4.50 Mirador

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.15 MR BOSTON.

Carl Evans: 4.15 Wild Illusion.

[illegible]

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 19 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES ON HURDLES COURSE) SIS

2.00 VILLAGE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,905: 2m 110yd) (11 runners)

1 11 JUYUSH 14 (D,S) (W Stott) J Old 5-11-12 J Osborne ✪
2 4 ABSOLUTE LIMIT 14 (B Woodman) J Gifford 5-11-4 P Hide 76
3 GLIDE PATH 10F (B Shiraz) J Jenkins 6-11-4 A Maguire —
4 P- HE KNOWS THE RULES 397 (J Heywood) R Buckler 5-11-4 B Powell —
5 KEEN BID 853F (B Seal) Mrs L Richards 6-11-4 M Richards —
6 15-4P KILCARNE BAY 23 (BF,G) (Compass Partners) O Sherwood 7-11-4 J A McCarthy 77
7 MODAJJAJ 491F (Mrs R Stitt) Miss L Bower 5-11-4 L Harvey —
8 0 PEALINGS 68 (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 5-11-4 N Rossiter (7) —
9 ZIPALONG (N Garrick) Mrs P Townsley 6-11-4 W McFarland —
10 0 DECISION MAKER 59 (Mrs B Whitehorn) K Burke 4-10-8 N Williamson —
11 64 GO WITH THE WIND 12 (A Cradeneck) C Weedon 4-10-8 D O'Sullivan 78

BETTING: 4-7 Juyush, 7-1 Kilcarne Bay, 8-1 Go With The Wind, Absolute Limit, 10-1 Glide Path, 16-1 Keen Bid, 20-1 others.

1996: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

FORM FOCUS

JUYUSH beat Dana Point 5l in 18-runner novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft). HE KNOWS THE RULES pulled up to Mistinguett in 17-runner novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to soft) KILCARNE BAY 9½l 4th of 14 to Hurricane Lamp in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good) on penultimate start. DECISION MAKER 67l 12th of 21 to Name Of Our Father in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to firm). GO WITH THE WIND 19l 4th of 10 to Hayaain in novice hurdle over course and distance (good).
Selection: JUYUSH (nap)

2.35 FIRST HALF CLUB NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,388: 3m 110yd) (4 runners)

1 24-2223 WEE WINDY 21 (BF,F,G,S) (W Gale) J Gifford 8-12-0 P Hide 92
2 4112-34 TAKE THE BUCKSKIN 55 (F,G,S) (D Wilson) T Thomson Jones 10-11-2 R Dunwoody 95
3 342-232 HAWAIIAN SAM 15 (G) (R Russell) A Turnell 7-11-2 G Crone ✪
4 00P/P ONEOFUS 22 (F) (R Letby) Mrs L Richards 8-10-0 M Richards —

Long handicap: Oneofus 9-1.
BETTING: 6-4 Hawaiian Sam, 2-1 Wee Windy, 9-4 Take The Buckskin, 25-1 Oneofus.

FORM FOCUS

WEE WINDY 3½l 2nd of 14 to Mister Drum in novice chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) Nov 96. TAKE THE BUCKSKIN 15l 4th of 7 to Oban in novice chase at Uttoxeter (2m 4f, soft). HAWAIIAN SAM 4¾l 3rd of 9 to Bankhead in novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: HAWAIIAN SAM

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
A Turnell	7	20	35.0	R Dunwoody	30	97	30.9
J Old	8	34	23.5	C Ward Thomas	5	18	27.8
Mrs M Reveley	5	22	22.7	A Maguire	20	86	23.3
O Sherwood	9	44	20.5	J Osborne	16	106	15.1
M Pipe	10	60	16.7	L Harvey	3	20	15.0

3.10 FAIRMILE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,640: 2m 110yd) (6 runners)

1 511-341 FORESTAL 19 (D,G,S) (S Griffiths) S Griffiths 5-11-13 P Henley ✪
2 5100/3 DOCTOOR 12 (CD,S) (A Walls) M Pipe 7-11-9 D Walsh 93
3 2261-F0 COURT NAP 12 (D,F,G) (M Connell) S Mellor 5-11-4 S Hearn (7) 95
4 13-2231 ROYAL EVENT 15 (D,F,S) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 5-10-12 D Fortt 94
5 11440-2 CAN CAN CHARLIE 8 (D,F,G) (G Tuffs) J Pearce 7-10-10 S Ryan 98
6 0-12103 MAZZINI 20 (D,E,G) (N Cooper) R Rowe 6-10-6 L Aspell 98

BETTING: 7-4 Doctoor, 11-4 Forestal, 9-2 Royal Event, 5-1 Can Can Charlie, 8-1 Mazzini, 12-1 Court Nap.

FORM FOCUS

FORESTAL beat Bolivar 2½l in 14-runner handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good). DOCTOOR about 3l 3rd of 14 to Kadastrof in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good). COURT NAP beat Marble Man ½l in 16-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to firm). ROYAL EVENT beat Handson ½l in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to firm). CAN CAN CHARLIE 14l 2nd of 10 to Flying Fiddler in handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good to firm). MAZZINI beat Neat Feat 5l in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good).
Selection: FORESTAL

3.45 LONDESBOROUGH HANDICAP CHASE (£4,811: 2m 4f 110yd) (4 runners)

1 4021-F5 NO PAIN NO GAIN 61 (G,S) (Marvellous Partners) J Gifford 9-11-10 P Hide 91
2 13-2601 GARRYLOUGH 28 (B,D,F,G,S) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 8-11-8 R Dunwoody ✪
3 0F0-611 TOO PLUSH 73 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 8-10-13 L Harvey 91
4 14-2140 SOLO GENT 23 (D,F,G,S) (A King) A Jones 8-10-0 N Williamson 87

BETTING: 5-4 Garrylough, 2-1 Too Plush, 7-2 No Pain No Gain, 12-1 Solo Gent.

FORM FOCUS

NO PAIN NO GAIN beat Montrave 2l in 5-runner novice chase at Ayr (2m, soft) April 96. GARRYLOUGH beat Five To Seven 14l in 8-runner handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). TOO PLUSH beat Five To Seven distance in 4-runner handicap chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to firm).
Selection: TOO PLUSH

4.15 WILFRED JOHNSTONE HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,604: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 F11431- HOWARYASUN 285 (V,D,F,G,S) (M Webley) Mrs C Hardinge 9-12-4 D S Jones (7) 63
2 1P1FPP- TUDOR FABLE 267 (D,G,S) (R Sweeting) C Sweeting 9-12-4 R Sweeting (7) 78
3 2/13112- WILD ILLUSION 12P (C,F,G,S) Miss J Pidgeon 13-12-4 R Lawther (7) 74
4 P/3412F- AMARI KING 273 (CD,F,G,S) (M Ward-Thomas) J Wall 13-12-1 C Ward Thomas (7) 63
5 1U5/44F- MR BOSTON 342 (C,F,G,S) (M Oldham) Mrs M Reveley 12-12-1 S Swiers ✪
6 0/25/46- POORS WOOD 404 (G,S) (F Jackson) S Breen 10-11-10 P O'Keeffe (7) —
7 224P0P- ROYAL IRISH 259 (S) (A Ayres) A Ayres 13-11-6 Miss C Townsley (7) —

BETTING: 6-4 Mr Boston, 7-4 Wild Illusion, 5-1 Howaryasun, 8-1 Amari King, 20-1 Tudor Fable, 33-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

HOWARYASUN beat Blue Cheek 9l in 12-runner hunter chase at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) May 96. WILD ILLUSION 2½l 2nd of 4 to Welsh Legion in hunter chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. AMARI KING beat A Windy Citizen 5l in 16-runner hunter chase at Ludlow (2m 4f, good) April 96. MR BOSTON 9¾l 4th of 15 to Killeshin in handicap chase at Newcastle (4m 1f, good to soft) Feb 96. POORS WOOD 41l 4th of 9 to Inchcailloch in novice chase at Kempton (2m, good) Nov 95.
Selection: WILD ILLUSION

4.50 SPRING NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,035: 2m 6f) (15 runners)

1 002/3- VINTAGE CLARET 449 (Mrs J Hall) J Gifford 8-11-10 L Aspell (3) —
2 02-2415 SPACEAGE GOLD 61 (F) (G Dabell) J Old 8-11-8 G Upton 81
3 02-142 ROYAL RAVEN 14 (G) (A Weller) J Gifford 6-11-8 P Hide 84
4 1 SPECIAL BEAT 28 (S) (C Marner) N Henderson 5-11-5 Mr C Vigors (5) 80
5 945-105 MAHLER 22 (S) (Badminton Partners) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-3 D Walsh 82
6 0P12-16 MIRADOR 7 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Whitehead) R Curtis 6-11-3 D Morris 89
7 514142 ALLOW 6 (G,S) (Mrs M Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 6-11-2 A Maguire 92
8 5/0-0602 PHYSICAL FUN 12 (A Blackmore) A Blackmore 6-10-12 D Skyrme ✪
9 P02-P TORCH VERT 13 (P Green) N Waller 5-10-10 R Dunwoody 80
10 00-060 RATHKEAL 30 (V) (S Lansdown) M Heaton-Ellis 6-10-6 B Powell 83
11 R2-6801 EQUITY'S DARLING 13 (B,S) (Mrs V O'Brien) D O'Brien 5-10-5 P Henley (3) 86
12 64523 LOUGH TULLY 30 (R Hancocks) F Jordan 7-10-3 J Osborne 81
13 240 LORD KHALICE 12 (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 6-10-2 N Williamson 83
14 PP42F1 PARADE RACER 14 (S) (LM Racing) P Murphy 6-10-1 W McFarland 80
15 30/F00-0 FARLEYER ROSE 15 (T Fane) Mrs L Richards 8-10-0 M Richards —

BETTING: 7-2 Special Beat, 6-1 Royal Raven, 7-1 Allow, 8-1 Mirador, Lough Tully, Physical Fun, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

SPACEAGE GOLD beat Tarrs Bridge 1l in 4-runner novice hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate start. ROYAL RAVEN beat Regal Pursuit 4l in 5-runner novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good). SPECIAL BEAT beat Edredon Bleu 2½l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). MAHLER beat Colwall 2½l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). MIRADOR beat Danny King 8l in 8-runner handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. ALLOW beat The Captain's Wish 3l in 13-runner handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, good) Nov 96.
Selection: SPACEAGE GOLD

Irish Gold Cup hope on trial at Thurles

DORANS PRIDE is opposed by Merry Gale on his first venture outside novice company in today's five-runner Kinloch Brae Chase at Thurles (our Irish racing correspondent writes).

Unbeaten in five starts over fences this season, Dorans Pride is as low as 4-1 second favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup despite not yet having been confirmed a certain runner in the race.

Today's race over 2½ miles, an inadequate stamina test for the 1995 Stayers' Hurdle winner, should be a good examination for Dorans Pride, especially against Merry Gale, fourth to Danoli in the Hennessy at Leopardstown last time.

A spokesman for Dorans Pride's trainer, Michael Hourigan, said yesterday: "The horse is in good shape. It will be a good test and just what we need to see if he should go to Cheltenham. It will be a challenge going into his first open event."

Hourigan and the owner, Tom Doran, have consistently refused to commit Dorans Pride to the Gold Cup, despite it being his sole Festival entry.

Today's race is an ideal opportunity for Merry Gale to push a claim for his own Cheltenham prospects. Jim Dreaper's horse could never dominate as he likes in the Hennessy last time and he will also appreciate the step back in distance from three miles.

The spokesman for Hourigan concluded: "It will be a disappointment if Dorans Pride doesn't perform well today."

TAUNTON

THUNDERER

1.40 Break The Rules. 2.10 Proud Image. 2.45 Mister Drum. 3.20 Brown Wren. 3.55 Jason's Boy. 4.25 Jefferies. 4.55 Princely Affair.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

1.40 BLACKDOWN MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £1,697: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

101 042 BREAK THE RULES 13 M Pipe 5-11-5 G Supple (7) 88
102 JOBIE 191F R Phillips 7-11-5 J Railton —
103 0 MYSTIC HILL 13 R Frost 6-11-5 J Frost —
104 RUMPELSTILTSKIN 21F H Howe 5-11-5 R Farrant —
105 SOLDIER COVE 16F M Meade 7-11-5 C Maude —
106 0-5 SOUTH WEST EXPRESS 52 D Wintle 5-11-5 W Marston 79
107 F/ VANBOROUGH LAD 64F M Bolton 8-11-5 T Dascombe (3) —
108 VENICE BEACH 483F C Brooks 5-11-5 G Bradley —
109 60-0 WALTER'S DESTINY 86 C Mitchell 5-11-5 S McNeill —
110 2224 DEVON PEASANT 68 L Cottrell 5-11-0 Mr L Jefford 94
111 0 ALPINE JOKER 24 P Hobbs 4-10-9 G Tormey —
112 4 KINGS WITNESS 14 P Nicholls 4-10-9 D Bridgwater ✪
113 KINNESCASH 34F P Bowen 4-10-9 R Johnson —
114 MASTER-H R Alner 4-10-9 A Thornton —

7-4 Break The Rules, 3-1 Devon Peasant, 7-1 Venice Beach, 8-1 Kings Witness, 12-1 South West Express, 14-1 Kinnescash, 16-1 others.

2.10 PORLOCK SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,005: 2m 1f) (16)

201 2235 GLOWING PATH 13 (D,BF,F,S) R Hodges 7-11-10 J Harris (7) 92
202 31 PROUD IMAGE 15 (F) G McCourt 5-11-7 D Bridgwater 91
203 1221 D'NAAN 13 (B,CD,G) M Pipe 4-11-6 C Maude 91
204 1-46 GENERAL SHIRLEY 210 (F) P Hedger 6-11-3 M Clinton (7) 97
205 4050 LITTLE HOOLIGAN 12 (B,CD,F) R Hodges 6-10-13 T Dascombe (3) 94
206 2206 LIME STREET BLUES 12 (B) C Brooks 6-10-13 G Bradley 84
207 D56- SHAHAKEE 266 (F) B Llewellyn 10-10-10 Mr J L Llewellyn ✪
208 P-30 STEER POINT 100 R Frost 6-10-9 J Frost 85
209 05-0 DISSOLVE 76 N Lampard 5-10-8 Mr L Baker (7) 96
210 0-50 ALDWICK COLONNADE 17 (F,G) M Usher 10-10-7 W Marston 90
211 6/F0 MARROWFAT LADY 15 N Berry 6-10-5 J Railton —
212 4P-0 MICK THE YANK 12 H Oliver 7-10-5 Jacqui Oliver 84
213 0-10 NORD LYS 13 (D,F) B Llewellyn 6-10-4 I Lawrence 90
214 P-25 KASHAN 56 (BF,G) F Hayward 9-10-0 B Fenton 93
215 P0P/ COURAGE-MON-BRAVE 622F (F) T George 9-10-0 R Johnson —
216 50P/ BOLD REINE 786 A Barrow 8-10-0 A Procter —

11-4 D'Naan, 4-1 Proud Image, 8-1 Glowing Path, 10-1 Lime Street Blues, 14-1 General Shirley, Mick The Yank, Steer Point, 16-1 others.

2.45 HENLADE NOVICES CHASE (£3,518: 2m 3f) (10)

301 122F MISTER DRUM 12 (F,G,S) M Wilkinson 8-12-0 W Marston ✪
302 2102 GAROLO 13 (B,S) C Brooks 7-11-8 G Bradley 96
303 P820 ASTRAL INVASION 8 (V,F) T Wall 6-11-2 R Massey (3) —
304 02-P DUNNICKS VIEW 55 F Tucker 8-11-2 M Griffiths (7) 59
305 -626 LUCKY EDDIE 16 (B,G) P Hobbs 6-11-2 C Maude —
306 6-0P LUCKY TANNER 22 Miss H Knight 6-11-2 J Culloty —
307 PP3/ RUSTIC FLIGHT 655P L Waring 10-11-2 D Leahy —
308 SYDNEY BOON 277P (G) D Elsworth 6-11-2 P Holley —
309 P-P0 GEMINI MIST 61 Mrs P Dutfield 6-10-11 Mr L Jefford —
310 6-PU WIN A HAND 12 B Ryall 7-10-11 T Dascombe (3) —

5-4 Garolo, 5-2 Mister Drum, 8-1 Lucky Eddie, 10-1 Dunnicks View, Lucky Tanner, 12-1 Sydney Boon, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Old, 6 winners from 17 runners, 35.3%; N Babbage, 4 from 12, 33.3%; J Neville, 3 from 9, 33.3%; P Hedger, 5 from 21, 23.8%; P Hobbs, 23 from 97, 23.7%; Miss H Knight, 6 from 26, 23.1%.

JOCKEYS: D Walsh, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; M Richards, 7 from 34, 20.6%; I Lawrence, 4 from 22, 18.2%; D Bridgwater, 16 from 89, 18.0%; J R Kavanagh, 6 from 35, 17.1%; N Williamson, 8 from 47, 17.0%.

3.20 CRANMORE MARES ONLY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,400: 3m 110yd) (16)

401 0/11 MAID EQUAL 13 (CD,G,S) M Pipe 6-12-0 G Supple (7) 96
402 34-3 MYBLACKTHORN 131 (S) P Nicholls 7-11-6 O Burrows (5) 92
403 F0P4 MISS MARIGOLD 15 (B,C,F,G,S) R Hodges 8-11-6 T Dascombe (3) 90
404 3333 FLEUR DE TAL 8 (F,G) W G M Turner 6-11-6 J Power (7) 96
405 P432 FIRST CRACK 8 (F,G,S) F Jordan 12-11-0 S Wynne ✪
406 530P COLETTE'S CHOICE 12 (S) G Ham 8-10-13 A Thornton 85
407 0311 SCOTTISH WEDDING 8 (C,F,G,S) T Wall 7-10-13 (7ex) R Massey (3) 98
408 -563 MISS SECRET 65 C Mitchell 7-10-4 D Bridgwater 80
409 8533 STRIKE-A-POSE 12 (S) B Llewellyn 7-10-2 I Lawrence 93
410 3-50 APACHEE FLOWER 80 (D,G) H Howe 7-10-2 R Johnson 98
411 2314 DRAGONMIST 12 (G,BF,S) D Burchell 7-10-0 D J Burchell 95
412 -4P4 SUMMER HAVEN 58 N Lampard 8-10-0 Mr A Kinane 85
413 0/3- STRAY HARMONY 348P R Smith 7-10-0 C Maude —
414 -25P ALICE'S MIRROR 14 (B,G,S) K Bishop 8-10-0 M Griffiths (7) 94
415 542P KONGIES MELODY 14 K Bishop 6-10-0 R Greene 81
416 -084 BROWN WREN 13 P Hobbs 6-10-0 G Tormey 90

7-2 Maid Equal, 6-1 Miss Secret, 7-1 Scottish Wedding, 8-1 Myblackthorn, First Crack, 10-1 Fleur De Tal, 12-1 others.

3.55 CHEDDAR HANDICAP CHASE (£3,713: 3m) (12)

501 31P0 DUHALLOW LODGE 19 (CD,F,G,S) C Barwell 10-11-11 B Fenton 91
502 63F4 MR PICKPOCKET 21 (S) Miss H Knight 9-11-7 J F Titley 87
503 3236 REALLY A RASCAL 15 (S) D Gandolfo 10-11-6 M A Fitzgerald 92
504 34P0 BENJAMIN LANCASTER 12 (G,S) M Griffin 13-10-12 M Griffiths (7) ✪
505 1U2/ SPRING TO IT 670P (F,G) M Pipe 11-10-10 Jamie Evans —
506 0FP4 CELTINO 12 (G) T Forster 9-10-9 S Wynne 88
507 20F/ ASWAMEDH 694 (G) P Hobbs 9-10-0 G Tormey —
508 315- JASON'S BOY 292 (F,G,S) J Bradley 7-10-0 R Johnson 92
509 -434 JAILBREAKER 15 (G,S) B Millman 10-10-0 D Salter (5) 98
510 2113 CALL ME RIVER 23 (CD,BF,G) P Hedger 9-10-0 I Lawrence 92
511 3-PP DISTILLATION 12 (G,S) G Edwards 12-10-0 T Dascombe (3) 94
512 PP4F MINGUS 10 (F,S) R Buckler 10-10-0 S McNeill 90

7-2 Mr Pickpocket, 9-2 Duhallow Lodge, 5-1 Celtino, 6-1 Really A Rascal, 8-1 Benjamin Lancaster, Spring To It, 10-1 Call Me River, 12-1 others.

4.25 FEBRUARY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,814: 2m 3f 110yd) (8)

601 P-2P SPRING SAINT 15 (S) Miss C Horler 8-11-10 C Maude 91
602 6-12 NINE O THREE 28 (C,F,S) A Newcombe 8-11-9 A Thornton ✪
603 1F/0 SPRING TO GLORY 110 (CD,F,G) P Hayward 10-11-6 B Fenton —
604 -126 JEFFERIES 15 (CD,G) J Old 8-11-5 C Llewellyn 92
605 2132 FAWLEY FLYER 17 (D,F,G,S) W G M Turner 8-10-12 J Power (7) 97
606 40-8 BOYFRIEND 23 (F) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-6 R Farrant 95
607 5260 MOOR HALL LADY 20 (V) N Babbage 6-10-3 W Marston 96
608 -FPP SAUSALITO BOY 17 (B,F,S) R Smith 9-10-0 D Bridgwater —

2-1 Fawley Flyer, 3-1 Nine O Three, 9-2 Jefferies, 6-1 Spring Saint, 7-1 Boyfriend, 8-1 Spring To Glory, 12-1 others.

4.55 BLACKDOWN MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £1,707: 2m 1f) (14)

1 0-2 CUBAN NIGHTS 215F B Llewellyn 5-11-5 R Johnson ✪
2 6/ DORMY THREE 171F R Hodges 7-11-5 T Dascombe (3) —
3 P GIVRY 26 G McCourt 7-11-5 Sophie Mitchell (5) —
4 LANGTONIAN 134F G Edwards 8-11-5 B Fenton —
5 MOOR DUTCH R Frost 6-11-5 Mr A Holdsworth —
6 2/30 TRISTRAM'S IMAGE 30 N Henderson 6-11-5 M A Fitzgerald 98
7 WELTON ARSENAL 103F K Bishop 5-11-5 R Greene —
8 06 ABBEYDORAN 169 Mrs J Hawkins 6-11-0 W Marston —
9 P FIERY FOOTSTEPS 33F C Popham 5-11-0 T O'Connor (7) —
10 PEARL HART 961F R Phillips 5-11-0 Martin Smith (7) —
11 SONG OF KENDA B Millman 5-11-0 D Salter (5) —
12 GIVE AND TAKE 134F M Pipe 4-10-9 Jamie Evans —
13 6 PRINCELY AFFAIR 31F J Bradley 4-10-9 S Wynne —
14 0 RAPID LINER 9F R Baker 4-10-9 V Slattery —

5-2 Give And Take, 7-2 Welton Arsenal, 5-1 Tristram's Image, 7-1 Cuban Nights, 10-1 Princely Affair, 14-1 Moor Dutch, 16-1 others.

Blinkered first time

CATTERICK: 2.55 Tico Gold. SANDOWN PARK: 4.50 Rathkeal. TAUNTON: 2.45 Lucky Eddie. 4.25 Moor Hall Lady, Sausalito Boy.

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

1.50 Karenastino. 2.20 Diddy Rymer. 2.55 Tico Gold. 3.30 Meadow Hymn. 4.05 Weaver George. 4.35 Hotspur Street.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

1.50 WEST OF YORE NOVICES CHASE (£2,824: 2m 3f) (7 runners)

1 P-P3 ALICAT 30 J Curtis 6-11-2 Derek Byrne
2 0 BANNER YEAR 55 T Carr 6-11-2 N Smith
3 5/24 COVER POINT 16 (F,G,BF) J Fitzgerald 6-11-2 P Carberry
4 2P3- DON'T TELL JUDY 285 Miss M Milligan 9-11-2 A S Smith
5 P024 KARENASTINO 26 Mrs S Smith 6-11-2 T Reed
6 0-PP WILD GAME 12 Miss S Williamson 6-11-2 B Storey
7 30-6 STEALING HOME 238 Mrs M Reveley 7-10-11 P Niven

4-5 Cover Point, 4-1 Stealing Home, 5-1 Karenastino, 7-1 Don't Tell Judy, 14-1 Alicat, 16-1 Banner Year, 25-1 Wild Game.

2.20 SINNINGTON MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,029: 2m) (13)

1 0 HELPERBY 26 J Howard Johnson 5-11-5 G F Ryan (5)
2 0-0 MILENBERG JOYS 72 P Calver 5-11-5 P Midgley (3)
3 P0/0 POINT DUTY 7 F Murtagh 7-11-5 D Bentley
4 1560 SILVER MINX 10 (G) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5 P Niven
5 -224 TAWAFIJ 141 M Hammond 8-11-5 R Garritty
6 0-00 TSANGA 13 G Moore 5-11-5 N Bentley
7 2-F0 DIDDY RYMER 14 Mrs S Smith 7-11-0 T Reed
8 150F NORTH END LADY 66 (F) W Cunningham 6-11-0 N Smith
9 0-0 PARRY 72 S Bell 5-11-0 B Storey
10 0-0 PENNY PEPPERMINT 48 R Barr 5-11-0 G Cahill
11 RED-STOAT Mrs J Storey 8-11-0 K Johnson
12 043 SALEM BEACH 48 M Todhunter 5-11-0 A Dobbin
13 042 SIX CLERKS 89 J Fitzgerald 4-10-9 P Carberry

7-4 Six Clerks, 3-1 Tawafij, 8-1 Salem Beach, Silver Minx, 12-1 Point Duty, 14-1 North End Lady, Penny Peppermint, 20-1 others.

2.55 ZETLAND HANDICAP CHASE (£2,772: 3m 1f 110yd) (5)

1 1P/P JOHNNY KELLY 30 (G) J Carr 10-11-10 F Leahy (3)
2 4334 SPARROW HALL 23 (F,G,S) J Fitzgerald 10-10-12 P Carberry
3 F231 TICO GOLD 13 (B,CD,G) P Cheesbrough 9-10-9 A S Smith
4 PP3P SNOOK POINT 10 (G) D Lamb 10-10-0 J Burke
5 5-4P GOLD PIGEON 64 B Rothwell 8-10-0 B Storey

5-4 Tico Gold, 6-4 Sparrow Hall, 8-1 Johnny Kelly, Snook Point, 12-1 Gold Pigeon.

3.30 CLEVELAND NOVICES HURDLE (£2,232: 3m 1f 110yd) (15)

1 1306 CLEVER BOY 20 (G) J Curtis 6-11-4 Derek Byrne
2 0231 MEADOW HYMN 7 (G) J Fitzgerald 6-11-4 P Carberry
3 AL JINN 20F M Wane 6-10-12 A S Smith
4 0-38 BASINCROFT 28 Miss S Williamson 7-10-12 A Todd (7)
5 BELTINO 278P Mrs J Storey 6-10-12 K Johnson
6 3403 CHILL FACTOR 28 Mrs M Reveley 7-10-12 P Niven
7 61P4 ELLIOTT'S WISH 34 (G) J Howard Johnson 6-10-12 A Dobbin
8 6 HOUSELOPE SPRING 55 J Howard Johnson 5-10-12 G F Ryan (5)
9 P KICKCASHTAL 20 Mrs C Bowman 8-10-12 M Sharratt
10 50 LA CHANCE 82 Mrs H Walton 7-10-12 Mr A Walton
11 000- MONNEDELL 286 E Weymes 5-10-12 Mr J Weymes
12 4-0F PERSIAN GRANGE 7 D Lamb 7-10-12 J Burke
13 FR0P ROYAL HAND 6 R Amson 7-10-12 Mr R Amson
14 4P03 WATER FONT 9 J J O'Neill 5-10-12 R McGrath (5)
15 P KAMBLETREE 26 M Sowersby 6-10-7 D Parker

3-1 Meadow Hymn, 7-2 Chill Factor, 7-1 Clever Boy, 10-1 Basincroft, 12-1 Water Font, Elliott's Wish, 14-1 others.

4.05 BEDALE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,707: 2m 3f) (4)

1 -333 ALJADEER 23 (B,F,G) M W Easterby 8-12-0 R Garritty
2 4121 WEAVER GEORGE 13 (CD,F,G) W Storey 7-11-8 M Moloney
3 -35F BLAZING TRAIL 2 (S) Miss L Russell 9-11-7 M Foster
4 4121 CUSH SUPREME 1 (F) M Todhunter 8-10-9 (7ex) P Carberry

6-4 Cush Supreme, 9-4 Aljadeer, 11-4 Weaver George, 6-1 Blazing Trail.

4.35 GOATHLAND NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,211: 2m 3f) (10)

1 -000 KILDRUMMY CASTLE 9 J Fitzgerald 5-11-10 P Carberry
2 6103 FRYUP SATELLITE 5 (CD,G) Mrs J Brown 6-11-9 Miss P Robson
3 6-60 PILKINGTON 12 (G) J Howard Johnson 7-11-9 M Brennan
4 4030 HIGHLY CHARMING 23 M Barraclough 5-11-7 R Supple
5 45F0 HOTSPUR STREET 10 (B) M W Easterby 5-11-5 R Garritty
6 -PP0 DOUGAL 12 B Rothwell 6-11-3 B Grattan (5)
7 535- ENCHANTED COTTAGE 303 J Jefferson 5-11-2 E Callaghan (3)
8 60P TEN PAST SIX 21 M Wane 5-11-1 A S Smith
9 6444 BAASM 21 J Norton 4-10-11 Derek Byrne
10 /0-8 AHBEJAYBUS 168 T Kersey 8-10-0 K Johnson

5-2 Fryup Satellite, 7-2 Enchanted Cottage, 6-1 Kildrummy Castle, Baasm, 7-1 Hotspur Street, 8-1 Highly Charming, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Barraclough, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%; J Fitzgerald, 12 from 55, 21.8%; Mrs M Reveley, 19 from 90, 21.1%; L Lungo, 8 from 46, 17.4%; P Beaumont, 9 from 66, 13.6%; J Norton, 3 from 22, 13.6%.

JOCKEYS: A S Smith, 17 winners from 63 rides, 27.0%; P Niven, 19 from 76, 25.0%; R Guest, 8 from 46, 17.4%; R Garritty, 14 from 91, 15.4%; A Dobbin, 13 from 99, 13.1%; M Moloney, 3 from 23, 13.0%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.55 Hattaafeh. 2.25 Illegally Yours. 3.00 Squire Corrie. 3.35 Puzzlement. 4.10 She's Dawan. 4.40 Random Kindness.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.55 ST VALENTINES AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (£2,778: 1m 5f) (8 runners)

1 1321 GOLDEN HADEER 6 (G,S) M Ryan 6-11-9 (5ex) S Lavallin (4) 8
2 4-11 HATTAAFEH 28 (CD,G) Miss B Sanders 6-11-7 Miss L Sheen (4) 7
3 0-18 CLASSY CHIEF 12 (CD,G) J White 4-10-9 J Crowley (7) 2
4 -051 CALENDULA 13 (B) D Morley 4-9-13 Miss Diana Jones 3
5 -215 QUALITAIR PRIDE 13 (BF,G) J Bottomley 5-9-11 Mrs L Pearce 8
6 46-0 CROSS TALK 42 (F,G,S) R Skorge 5-9-11 J Dewhurst (7) 6
7 5-08 UONI 9 P Butler 4-9-3 Mrs A Perrett 1
8 -063 DON'T DROP BOMBS 9 (V,C,F,G) D Thom 8-9-0 Miss J Feilden 4

5-2 Calendula, 4-1 Golden Hadeer, 9-2 Hattaafeh, 5-1 Qualitair Pride, 7-1 Don't Drop Bombs, 10-1 Classy Chief, 12-1 others.

2.25 YOUNG LOVE SELLING HANDICAP (£2,077: 2m) (7)

1 36-6 MATTHIAS MYSTIQUE 23 (CD,G) Miss B Sanders 4-9-12 S Sanders 5
2 4405 ELA MAN HOWA 5 (C,BF,F,G) A Bailey 6-9-10 R Hughes 4
3 56-3 ILLEGALLY YOURS 14 L Montague Hall 4-9-4 W Ryan 6
4 -060 OLD HUSH WING 31 P Haslam 4-9-1 S Drowne 7
5 -450 PERSIAN BUD 22 (E,G) M Bosley 9-8-7 J Bramhill (5) 3
6 00/ KALAKATE 87J (C,G) J Bridger 12-8-6 A Daly (5) 1
7 -000 BROUGHTONS RELISH 7J W Musson 4-7-11 M Baird (3) 2

2-1 Matthias Mystique, 5-2 Ela Man Howa, 3-1 Illegally Yours, 8-1 Old Hush Wing, 12-1 Persian Bud, 16-1 Kalakate, 20-1 Broughtons Relish.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Bell, 8 winners from 33 runners, 24.2%; D Nicholls, 9 from 42, 21.4%; L Montague Hall, 11 from 54, 20.4%; P Haslam, 17 from 89, 19.1%; D Murray-Smith, 13 from 71, 18.3%; M Johnston, 42 from 243, 17.3%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 27 winners from 115 rides, 23.5%; Alex Greaves, 10 from 45, 22.2%; S Whitworth, 31 from 163, 19.0%; W Ryan, 18 from 98, 18.4%; Miss Diana Jones, 4 from 24, 16.7%; Miss J Feilden, 3 from 21, 14.3%.

3.00 CASANOVA HANDICAP (£2,496: 6f) (14)

1 -015 SQUIRE CORRIE 2 (F,G) D Chapman 5-10-7 (7ex) A Culhane 12
2 06-2 XENOPHON OF CUNAXA 19 (B,D,F,S) M F-Godley 4-10-0 W Ryan 3
3 12-5 SIHAFI 30 (CD,BF,G) J Carr 4-9-12 A Clark 8
4 3503 THE FRISKY FARMER 14 (V,D,F,S) W G M Turner 4-9-11 D McGaffin (7) 6
5 0204 DOUBLE OSCAR 7 (B,D,F) D Nicholls 4-9-10 Alex Greaves 2
6 0033 FEATHERSTONE LANE 8 (V,F,G) Miss L Siddall 6-9-9 T Siddall (7) 13
7 000- LOCHON 213 (CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 6-9-9 C Teague (3) 10
8 -521 IVORY'S GRAB HIRE 7 (B,C,F,G) K Ivory 4-9-7 (7ex) D Biggs 7
9 -326 ALJAZ 28 (D,G,S) Miss G Kelleway 7-9-6 D Holland 11
10 0411 TACHYCARDIA 16 (CD,F,G) R O'Sullivan 5-9-4 N Varley (3) 14
11 -451 SIR TASKER 12 (CD,F,G) J L Harris 9-9-2 S Sanders 5
12 2203 THICK AS THIEVES 7 (D,F,G) Ronald Thompson 5-9-0 J Fanning 4
13 0-03 SOUTHERN DOMINION 12 (CD,G) Miss J Craze 5-8-11 S Webster 1
14 6564 SUPERLAO 12 (F,G) J Bridger 5-8-3 A Daly (5) 9

5-1 Sir Tasker, 6-1 Ivory's Grab Hire, 7-1 Squire Corrie, Tachycardia, 8-1 Double Oscar, Featherstone Lane, 10-1 Thick As Thieves, 12-1 others.

3.35 SEALED WITH A LOVING KISS HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,700: 1m) (4)

1 4-1 PASTICHE 14 (CD,G) T Mills 9-7 W Ryan 1
2 41 HINT OF VICTORY 19 (CD,G) M Bell 9-7 G Faulkner (5) 4
3 106- SWIFT 104 (G) M Polglase 8-12 M Fenton 2
4 00-5 PUZZLEMENT 7 C Brittain 8-9 D Holland 3

6-4 Hint Of Victory, 7-4 Pastiche, 7-2 Swift, 8-1 Puzzlement.

4.10 CUPID FILLIES MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O fillies: £2,372: 7f) (6)

1 0-3 JULIA'S RELATIVE 22 R Guest 8-11 P Bloomfield 5
2 040- MISS BARCELONA 132 M Polglase 8-11 T G McLaughlin 4
3 58 NATIVE THATCH 21 W G M Turner 8-11 D Sweeney (5) 1
4 404- SHALSTAYHOLY 94 G L Moore 8-11 S Whitworth 6
5 0-3 SHE'S DAWAN 26 P Mitchell 8-11 A Whelan (3) 2
6 006- SHE'S ELECTRIC 44 J Bridger 8-11 A Daly (5) 3

6-4 Shalstayholy, 11-4 Miss Barcelona, 5-1 Julia's Relative, 6-1 She's Dawan, 8-1 Native Thatch, 12-1 She's Electric.

4.40 SAY IT WITH ROSES MAIDEN STAKES (£3,306: 1m 4f) (4)

1 00- HAPPY MEDIUM 166 G Enright 4-9-10 A Daly (5) 3
2 2252 NAKHAL 7 (B) D Murray Smith 4-9-10 D Holland 1
3 -522 RANDOM KINDNESS 12 R Ingram 4-9-10 S Sanders 2
4 00- RAMIKE 105 M Johnston 3-8-3 J Fanning 4

7-4 Random Kindness, Nakhal, 5-2 Ramike, 10-1 Happy Medium.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Lingfield Park

Going: heavy

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, HARBET HOUSE (N Williamson, 5-1); 2, Eau De Cologne (M Richards, 12-1); 3, Ivory Coaster (J Osborne, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Mutanassib, 3 Rising Dough (4th), 8 Balleswhidden, Frys No Fool (5th), 14 Trouvaille (6th), 25 Otto E Mezzo, 50 Barbara's Jewel (pu), Dia Georgy (pu), 66 Anif (pu), Ballyquintet (pu), Cheeky Charlie, Clock Watchers (pu). 15 ran. 7l, 1½l, 7l, 9l, 28l. R O'Sullivan at Whitcombe. Tote: £8.80; £2.80, £2.30, £5.00. DF: £47.30. Trio: £171.10 (part won; pool of £168.69 carried forward to 2.10 at Taunton today) CSF: £69.11.

2.30 (2m 7f hdle) 1, WARNER FOR PLAYERS (N Williamson, 10-11 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Dancetillyoudrop (D Bridgwater, 9-2); 3, Credo Boy (B Powell, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 15-2 Brave Edwin (6th), 9 Mr Lovely (pu), 12 Greg's Profiles (5th), 14 Paprika (pu), 20 Charlie's Folly (pu), Roll Again (pu), 25 Forest Mill, 50 Dannybelle (pu), Fashion Leader (pu), Gentle Tune (pu), High Mood, King's Affair (pu), Willows Roulette (4th). 16 ran. 5l, dist, 2l, dist, 12l. P Hobbs at Minehead. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £1.80, £10.50. DF: £4.30. Trio: £71.00. CSF: £4.76.

3.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, GLITTER ISLE (P Hide, 13-8 fav); 2, Angelo's Double (B Powell, 5-2); 3, Indian Delight (C Maude, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 With Impunity (f), 12 Reeshloch (5th), 16 Slipmatic (f), 20 Country Keeper (f), Sound Statement (pu), 25 Plumbridge (4th), 33 Minor Key (pu), 50 Althrey Blue (f), Lucky Call (ur), Spy Dessa (pu). 13 ran. 12l, dist, 22l, 29l. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £2.50; £1.80, £1.70, £4.30. DF: £8.30. Trio: £33.20. CSF: £5.10.

3.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, NIPPER REED (R Dunwoody, 7-1); 2, August Twelfth (P Hide, 11-4); 3, Tickerty's Gift (M Attwater, 6-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Winsford Hill (5th), 5 El Grando (4th). 5 ran. NR: Young At Heart. 3½l, 9l, 22l, 19l. T Hind at Wendover. Tote: £5.80; £1.70, £2.00. DF: £10.00. CSF: £24.60.

4.00 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, TOTAL JOY (R Dunwoody, 5-1 jt-fav); 2, Lord Rooble (S Laird, 6-1); 3, Roskeen Bridge (N Williamson, 5-1 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 5-1 jt-fav Shanagore Warrior (4th), 6 Equity's Darling (pu). 15-2 Fontainerouge (pu), 14 Amber Ring (pu), Dancing Dancer (pu), 16 Celtic Lilley, Karen's Typhoon (su), 20 Ewar Bold (6th), Red Lighter (5th), 33 Miss Mylette. 13 ran. NR: My Man In Dundalk. 11l, 3½l, 8l, 10l, 11l. C Mann at Lambourn. Tote: £9.00; £2.30, £3.60, £1.90. DF: £13.10. Trio: £42.80. CSF: £33.83. Tricast: £151.07.

4.30 (3m ch) 1, VICOMPT DE VALMONT (Mr T Mitchell, 3-1); 2, Avostar (Mr B Pollock, 8-1); 3, Fifth Amendment (Mr A Hales, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Holland House (ur), 9-2 Colonial Kelly (pu), 8 Over The Edge (pu), 20 Amadeus (pu), Fanngo (pu), 33 Centre Stage (4th), Gambling Royal (pu), 50 Castlebay Lad (r), Eli Gee (f), Major Mac (pu). 13 ran. 12l, dist, dist. P Nicholls at Shepton Mallet. Tote: £5.90; £1.30, £3.40, £2.70. DF: £19.40. Trio: £121.80 (part won; pool of £137.28 carried forward to 2.10 at Taunton today). CSF: £27.11.

Jackpot: £10,327.30 (0.4 winning tickets. Pool of £8,727.32 carried forward to Taunton today).
Placepot: £258.40. Quadpot: £28.20.

Musselburgh

Going: good to firm, good in places

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Palace Of Gold (W Dowling, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Oakbury (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Doubling Dice (11-1). 10 ran. 1¼l, 9l. L Lungo. Tote: £4.90; £2.80, £1.70, £3.00. DF: £10.10. Trio: £29.60. CSF: £22.71. Tricast: £189.26.

2.40 (2m ch) 1, Singing Sand (R Supple, 6-4 fav); 2, Hee's A Dancer (12-1); 3, Know-No-No (5-1). 9 ran. 9l, 2l. P Monteith. Tote: £2.40; £1.20, £2.00, £2.10. DF: £19.30. Trio: £15.00. CSF: £17.66. Tricast: £66.77.

3.10 (2m hdle) 1, Double Agent (P Carberry, 15-8); 2, Meltemison (7-4 fav); 3, Formidable Partner (4-1). 6 ran. 1¼l, 8l. J Johnson. Tote: £3.50; £1.80, £1.10. DF: £2.80. CSF: £5.04.

3.40 (3m ch) 1, Cush Supreme (P Carberry, 10-11 fav); 2, Buyers Dream (6-1); 3, Risky Dee (16-1). 8 ran. 7l, 5l. M Todhunter. Tote: £1.90; £1.40, £1.70, £2.60. DF: £2.10. CSF: £6.66. Tricast: £46.27.

4.10 (3m ch) 1, Howayman (Mr A Parker, 7-2); 2, Murder Moss (7-1); 3, Free Transfer (8-1). Master Kit 10-11 fav (f). 8 ran. NR: Piper O'Drummond. 7l, 12l. K Anderson. Tote: £4.70; £1.40, £1.60, £1.20. DF: £29.60. Trio: £55.10. CSF: £26.65.

4.40 (3m hdle) 1, Mr Christie (A Thornton, 7-2); 2, Eternal City (12-1); 3, Heavens Above (11-4 fav). 11 ran. NR: Chester, Dashmar. 1l, 1¾l. Miss L Siddall. Tote: £5.40; £1.70, £2.90, £1.50. DF: £38.80. Trio: £9.90. CSF: £44.02. Tricast: £125.20.
Placepot: £17.20. Quadpot: £5.10.

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

1.50 (7f) 1, Mansab (S Drowne, 2-1 fav); 2, Bold Effort (8-1); 3, Elite Hope (6-1). 8 ran. NR: Nashaat. ¾l, 1¼l. P Murphy. Tote: £4.20; £2.40, £3.60, £1.30. DF: £21.50. Trio: £23.80. CSF: £16.94. Tricast: £74.04.

2.20 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, Don Sebastian (D Holland, 11-10 fav); 2, Pennywell (4-1); 3, Venture Connect (9-2). 11 ran. 2l, 2l. W Haggas. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £3.60, £2.40. DF: £6.60. Trio: £14.60. CSF: £5.82.

2.50 (1m 6f 166yd) 1, Petoskin (M Wigham, 4-1); 2, Height Of Fame (9-4 jt-fav); 3, Philmist (16-1). Shakyr 9-4 jt-fav. 10 ran. NR: Rachael's Dawn. 1¾l, 6l. J Pearce. Tote: £4.40; £1.60, £1.70, £2.80. DF: £13.50. Trio: £35.30. CSF: £12.36.

3.20 (7f) 1, Rakis (D Holland, 9-1); 2, Cim Bom Bom (100-30 fav); 3, Yeoman Oliver (10-1). 8 ran. Nk, 2½l. Mrs L Stubbs. Tote: £12.60; £1.50, £2.80, £2.60. DF: £18.00. CSF: £34.69. Tricast: £281.65.

3.50 (5f) 1, Brutal Fantasy (R Lappin, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Mangus (5-1); 3, Nightingale Song (5-1). Sloutrouge 3-1 jt-fav. 6 ran. 1¾l, ½l. J Eyre. Tote: £3.30; £1.70, £4.90. DF: £11.50. CSF: £17.40.

4.20 (6f) 1, Royal Cascade (L Newton, 9-2); 2, Hever Golf Charger (3-1 fav); 3, Pretty Sally (4-1). 9 ran. ¾l, nk. B McMahon. Tote: £7.60; £2.30, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £60.50. Trio: £11.40. CSF: £18.66.

4.50 (1m 4f) 1, Northern Motto (D Griffiths, 5-1); 2, Studio Thirty (12-1); 3, Ambidextrous (10-1). Slip Jig 6-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Arcus. 4l, 1¾l. J Goldie. Tote: £9.80; £1.40, £1.90, £1.90. DF: £31.60. Trio: £35.60. CSF: £64.68. Tricast: £561.60.
Placepot: £45.40. Quadpot: £13.00.

Strong British entry in Dubai

EIGHT British-trained horses were yesterday shortlisted for the Dubai World Cup, run at Nad Al Sheba on March 29. They are joined by the Godolphin-owned pair, Annus Mirabilis and Tamayaz, among the 24 horses selected by an international panel of handicappers for the $4m contest.

Mark Johnston supplies two entries in Bijou D'Inde and Gothenberg, as does Clive Brittain through Luso and Needle Gun. Other British horses accepted are Even Top (trained by Mark Tompkins), Flemensfirth (John Gosden), Singspiel (Michael Stoute) and Sorbie Tower (Gay Kelleway).

RACELINE
0930 168+

	COMMENTARY	RESULTS
SANDOWN	101	201
TAUNTON	102	202
CATTERICK	103	203
LINGFIELD	104	204
IRISH	120	220

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

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CRICKET

Relaxed England hot favourites to wrap up series

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN CHRISTCHURCH

FOR 32 games, spanning 34 months, England have not once felt willing and able to name an unchanged Test team. The fact that they will surely do so unhesitatingly at Lancaster Park today is a powerful argument for their ability to complete an overseas series win for the first time since they were last in New Zealand, five winters ago.

There really ought to be no doubt about it. In the two Tests played to date, England have been so totally dominant that no New Zealander could be confident of a place in their team. It is a delightfully new experience for most of the players and there is no logical reason to suspect that they will be denied by defeat in this final match.

True, this barren ground — built principally for rugby and unworthy of a charming city — has witnessed some stirring New Zealand victories. In 1984, they humiliated England, bowling them out for 82 and 93 to win by an innings, and in the past ten years they have won here against West Indies, India and Pakistan.

Yet the present New Zealand side seems incapable of heroics. It is much the same group of players that won notably in Lahore only last November, but unless their batting guru, Martin Crowe, has performed miracles in the space of three days, they will remain technically inadequate against accomplished Test match bowling.

This is not a description that could be conferred upon many England attacks of recent vintage, but the bowlers who combined successfully in Wellington, and will regroup here, offered aggression, control and balance — the virtues for which Michael Atherton has been yearning in vain almost throughout his time as captain.

Interestingly, two of the bowlers were in the last unchanged England team, for the Antigua Test of 1994 that immediately followed a heady win in Barbados.

Neither Andy Caddick nor Philip Tufnell will regard their Antigua analyses with much affection, for it was a match monopolised by Brian Lara's monumental 375; and both have been out of favour for much of the interim period.

Tufnell has played only nine of the 32 Tests since Antigua, including the four on this tour, while Caddick has been chosen for just two. As he took six wickets in each of them, at Leeds last August and then in Wellington, he is entitled to feel other bowlers have been unjustly promoted ahead of him.

Caddick's ability is not in question, but those who sit in judgment have seldom been sure of his approach. He is a misfit within a team environment, an awkward, shy and rather solitary figure. He is inclined to speak bluntly and humourlessly and he does not spare himself.

"I am a self-critical person," he explained. "I think that is the way to make myself better. I talk myself down because then the only way to go is up."

His ways have sometimes seemed perverse, but perhaps too much has been made of this. When his bowling rhythm is right, as it was in Wellington, he is a class act, a more dangerous bowler than most of those England have tried during his career. This should be the ultimate measure of him.

This is a homecoming for Caddick. His parents, Chris and Audrey, still live a ten-minute drive from Lancaster Park, where he once played for the Riccarton club as a teenager. His brother, Paul, who runs the family decorating business, is also expected to be in the crowd.

Caddick has heard himself branded a "traitor" from the terraces at least once on tour, further reason for his stoically unemotional attitude. "I will not make this a special game," he said. "My home is in England now."

However, it is not only Caddick who feels familiar with these surroundings. The England players all appear comfortable with conditions here and the inability to maximise home advantage has been a contributory factor to New Zealand's position. Indeed, at this stage, it is difficult to imagine a pitch they could prepare that might seriously disadvantage England.

The groundsman at Lancaster Park says nobody influenced him and that he expects his pitch to support batting first. England were so unconcerned that none of their management team bothered to look at it yesterday, when the players were freed to take part in a charity golf event. New Zealand, however, indicated that they expect the pitch to have a generous covering of grass by adding Heath Davis, the fastest bowler in the country, to their 12.

The subdued state of Dominic Cork and the poor batting form of Nick Knight are England's main concerns. Since his gallantry in Bulawayo, where he made a memorable 96 not out in the run chase, Knight has managed only 58 runs in four Test innings and his habit of thrusting the bat away from his body outside off stump is regularly exposing him when the ball is swinging.

If he fails again here, Knight will find himself under pressure from Mark Butcher — who impressed on the England A tour of Australia — before the summer's Ashes series. This will be an altogether more daunting proposition and the imminence of it is sufficient to keep every player motivated.

"Missing out on that series is a hell of a threat," the coach, David Lloyd, said. "It would be very foolish to develop complacency and we are not kidding anyone that one win is a turning point. The only way to stop criticism is to keep winning."

TEAMS

ENGLAND (from): M A Atherton (captain), N V Knight, A J Stewart, N Hussain, G P Thorpe, J P Crawley, R D B Croft, D G Cork, D Gough, A R Caddick, P C R Tufnell, C White.

NEW ZEALAND (from): L K Germon (captain), B A Pocock, B A Young, M J Horne, S P Fleming, N J Astle, C L Cairns, D N Patel, S B Doull, G I Allott, D Vettori, H T Davis, C Z Harris.

Umpires: S Dunne and D Hair (Australia). **Third umpire:** D Quested.

Tufnell's top spinning display

BY SIMON WILDE

THERE could be worse places than Lancaster Park, Christchurch, for England to attempt to win their first Test series overseas since 1992. One infamous disaster aside, they have an excellent record there and on their last visit produced one of their best sessions of cricket to clinch a resounding win.

Five years ago, England outplayed New Zealand throughout the game, scoring 580 for nine and enforcing the follow-on with a lead of 268. But, at tea on the final day, New Zealand still had seven wickets in hand and a draw looked likely.

England won with ten minutes to spare thanks to superb bowling from Philip Tufnell, who played perhaps his best game for his country in taking 11 wickets from 85.1 overs of accurate, flighted spin on an unhelpful pitch.

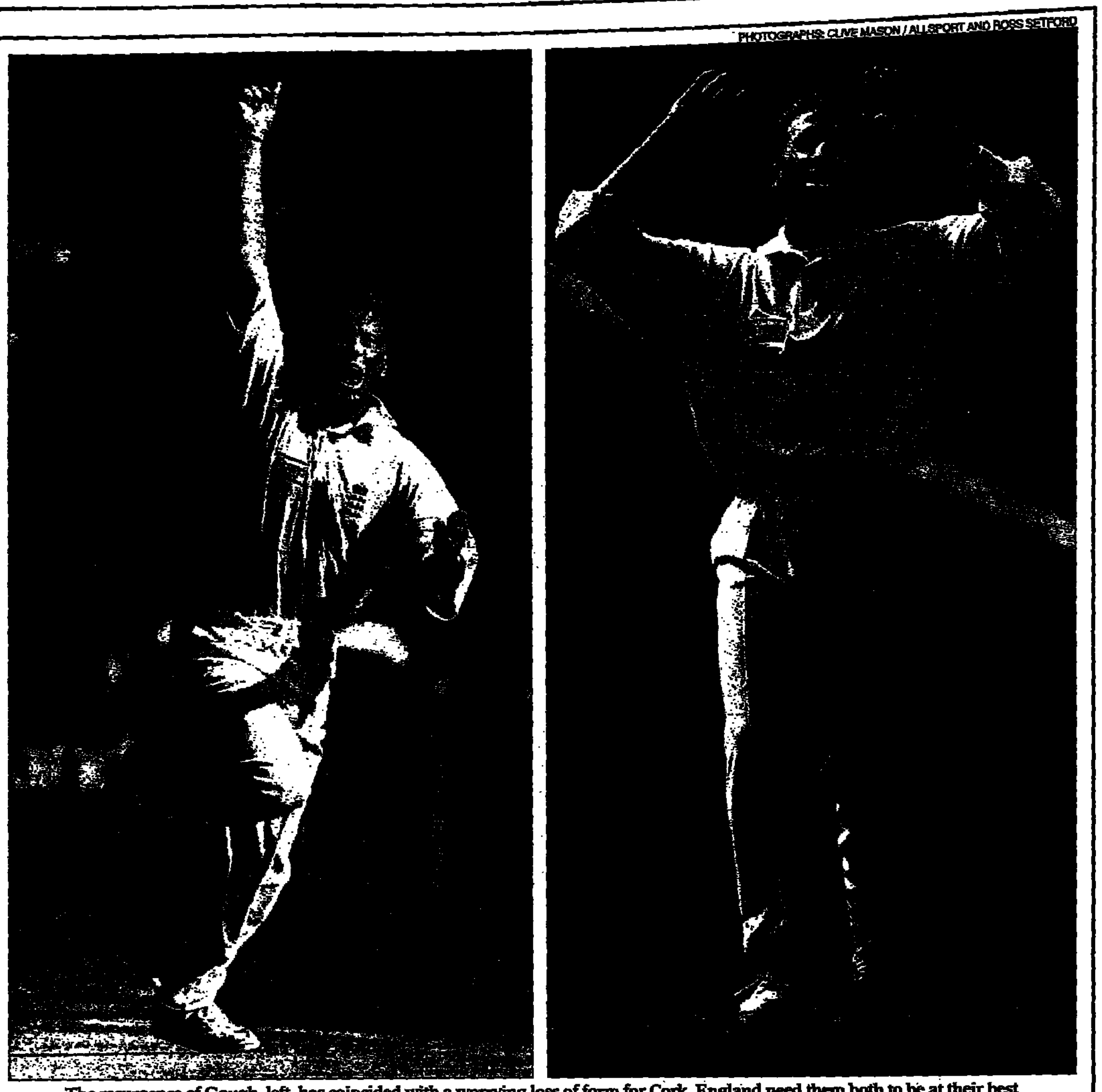
Five of his wickets came in that last session, the fifth being that of Martin Crowe, who skied the ball into the hands of mid-off seeking the boundary that would have cleared the arrears and ensured the match was drawn. England's only other survivor from that match, Alec Stewart, scored 148.

Thirteen years ago, on the other hand, England gave one of their most inept performances, dismissed twice for less than 100 — Richard Hadlee taking eight wickets and scoring 99 — in a game that occupied less than 12 hours' playing time. Beaten by an innings and 132 runs, it remains their heaviest defeat in 76 Tests against New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND v ENGLAND AT CHRISTCHURCH: Results: Played 13, England won 6, New Zealand won 1, drawn 6.

Records (England first). Highest totals: 580-9 dec (1991-92); 417-8 dec (1950-51); Lowest totals: 82 (1983-84), 65 (1970-71). Highest individual innings: 227 W R Hammond (1932-33), 116 W A Hadlee (1946-47) and B Sutcliffe (1950-51). Best bowling: 7-47 P C R Tufnell (1991-92); 6-83 J Cowie (1946-47)

PHOTOGRAPHS: CLIVE MASON / ALLSPORT AND ROSS SETFORD



The resurgence of Gough, left, has coincided with a worrying loss of form for Cork. England need them both to be at their best

Cork short of swing and swagger

One man played conspicuously little part in the victory in the second Test. **Alan Lee** on a strike bowler who has lost his way

Even amid the euphoria of a Test match victory, and its sense of breathless salvation, there is a cloud on England's horizon, one they could not possibly have forecast. It concerns the form and general welfare of the man they had come to regard as their most potent match-winner, Dominic Cork.

To say that Cork passed unnoticed at Wellington while England bowled out New Zealand twice in the equivalent of five sessions is evidence enough that he was ineffectual. Cork's one wicket in the match was that of a hapless tailender and, unlike Andy Caddick, he did not have injustice on his side. It might even be said he was flattered.

Such things have not been said of Cork since his stirring Test debut two years ago and he will not enjoy hearing them now, but the England management must address the reasons for the sudden shortfall in Cork's performance, because it threatens to diminish the most resourceful bowling attack they have fielded in years.

On his good days, when adversity is not playing on his nerves, David Lloyd, the coach, conjures some appropriate verbal images. As the Test ended on Monday, he spoke of his five bowlers "poking the opposition in the chest". He was referring to an intensity of pressure, present almost throughout the five days at the Basin Reserve, but which eased perceptibly whenever Cork had the ball.

A few months ago, this would have been inconceivable. As Michael Atherton, the captain, said in mitigation: "Corky has been carrying our attack for a while now." So he has, and one should not condemn him for an indifferent week or two, especially as Caddick and Darren Gough have responded so creditably to the challenge.

The contrast this week was inescapable, however. Between them, Caddick and Gough bowled 50 overs in the New Zealand second innings and took six for 92. Cork was given just ten overs and conceded 42 runs without taking a wicket. Atherton must have been sorely tempted to overlook him when the second new ball became due; as it was, he allowed him only two overs.

Atherton will not publicly admit he is worried about Cork, any more than Cork himself will concede he is a troubled soul, but both men know it is true and it is to be hoped they get together for a serious talk before the final Test begins today.

Cork's late arrival on this tour, a delay on compassionate grounds rather than those of fitness, did not seem to matter when he took three wickets in the first session at Hamilton last month. The outswinger was working well and his action seemed fluent. In the second innings of that match against Northern Districts, though, he left the field with a back injury and things have not been the same since.

> 'The management must look after his welfare as much as his technique'

The extent of that injury is still a curiosity. A day later, he was struggling to bend sufficiently to pick up a kit bag, yet, only five days after apparently breaking down, he was playing in the Auckland Test. He took three wickets, bowling serviceably, but he was used little in the frustrating later stages of that drawn game, a portent of things to come in Wellington.

Cork is now struggling for rhythm. He is not swinging the ball as he can and his action looks strained. He is also, subconsciously, beginning to look for excuses. He made a great play of the wet run-up on the first afternoon in Wellington and was eventually taken off. Gough, who replaced him, charged in undeterred by the admittedly wet ground and took three wickets inside four overs.

Only Cork can know how much he is being affected by the sad disruption in his private life, but he is certainly far less gregarious than usual. Even on Monday night, he admitted he abandoned the celebrations and was in bed by 9.30pm. Here again, the management have a job: they must look out for his state of mind as much as they look out for his technique.

It is an ironic game that can inflict on Cork his first spell of international toil at the very time when Gough has recaptured his most irrepressible form, for previously it has happened in reverse. In 1995, Gough's brief but brilliant glories in Australia were cut short by injury, then a struggle for form and his rapidly acquired profile as the face of English cricket was passed to the new meteor, Cork.

Thankfully, these two have no jealousy of each other. On the contrary, they are close friends and England now need them to be mutually supportive, for the promise that this winning team might just offer some continuity of personnel and performance will not be fulfilled until both are bowling at their best.

While the Test this week is a homecoming for Caddick, who was born in Christchurch, it is also an evocative return for Cork and Gough. A few winters back, as young bucks on the county circuit, they spent the off-season together here, playing club cricket.

The story goes that Cork's club provided him with the most basic form of transport, a bicycle. Bridling, he moved in with his Yorkshire pal so that he could borrow his sponsored car. It might be partly apocryphal, but it is most appropriate. In this of all weeks, Cork needs to borrow a little of Gough's supply of magic to reinforce England's dominance of an inferior New Zealand side.

Batsman who kept up family tradition

BY JOHN WOODCOCK

D. C. H. Townsend, who has died at the age of 84, was a member of one of cricket's most extended dynasties. His grandfather, Frank, an adventurous batsman, was prominent in helping the three Graces — W. G., Fred, and E. M. — establish Gloucestershire as a county club; his father, C. L., was a brilliant schoolboy bowler at Clifton, who went on to win two caps as an all-rounder for England; his two uncles, A. F. M. and F. N., played for Gloucestershire, and both his brother, P. N., and his own son, J. R. A., played for Oxford University without gaining a Blue.

David Townsend himself is the last cricketer to have appeared for England without ever playing for a first-class county. Chosen to go to the West Indies with the MCC team in 1934-35, on the strength of having scored 193 for Oxford in the University match of 1934, he played in three of the four Test matches there, each time opening the England innings with his captain, R. E. S. Wyatt.

With Learie Constantine and E. A. Martindale in their bowling prime at the time, Townsend's six Test innings brought him only 77 runs; but against Guyana at Georgetown, he and Walter Hammond shared an unbroken partnership of 203 in taking MCC to one of only two wins they achieved on the tour.

Most of Townsend's cricket was played for Durham, the county of his birth, well before their elevation to first-class status. He played for them, more often in some seasons than others, from 1935 until 1948 and captained them, when fitness and his duties as a solicitor allowed, between 1937 and 1947.

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ATHLETICS: PAID LEAVE THE CATALYST FOR REVIVAL OF INTEREST

Griffiths delivers stamp of class

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

AS Shirley Griffiths, a postwoman from Cramlington, Northumberland, set foot last weekend on the path towards the world indoor championships in Paris next month, she could see two letter boxes — one marked first-class, the other second. Quickly, she realised that second-class speed would be too slow for her needs.

After 100 metres of the 1,500 metres at the British trials, Griffiths sensed that the pace would not deliver her to the finish within the qualifying time. "I thought: 'I am just going to have to leg it,'" she said. With a solo effort, Griffiths arrived before deadline.

Not only was it refreshing to see another British woman middle-distance runner with the strength of purpose of a Kelly Holmes or Paula Radcliffe, but also the moment captured the rich flavour of the trials. There is a new guard emerging in British athletics, Griffiths being older than the average because, like Holmes, she has returned to athletics after abandoning the sport when she left school.

"I stopped running and went out drinking, having fun," Griffiths said. "I grew so fat, 11st." In 1991, aged 18, Griffiths joined the Post Office, where a Cramlington clubman informed her that, if she could qualify for the British women's postal team, she would be granted a week off work to take part in the European championships.

"A week off work, getting paid, tempted me," Griffiths said. "When I ran at first, my legs were so fat that I had to rub Vaseline on to stop them chaffing." She has improved each year since, bringing her indoor best down to 4min 14.98sec in Birmingham, 0.02sec inside the world qualifying time. Her seven-mile postal round, for which she rises before 5am, is not ideal preparation for daily training, but Griffiths is determined to make the best of it.

"I am only part-time, four hours a day, but it is really tiring," Griffiths said. "I am next in line for full-time, but I will not be doing it." Athletics comes first.

The most colourful parade of new guard soldiers came in the men's 400 metres, where Jamie Baulch, 23, set a British record while Mark Hylton, 20, and Guy Bullock, 21, moved into the all-time national top seven. Joining them in Paris, provided that the selectors are forward thinking enough, will be Damien Greaves, the runner-up to Colin Jackson in the 60 metres hurdles.

Greaves, 19, is the nephew of Wilbert Greaves, a former international hurdler, who coaches him. His 7.83sec was his fifth personal best this winter. Though Greaves is unlikely to reach the final in Paris, the selectors should regard the experience that he would gain as an investment.

Rhian Clarke, 19, over the bar at 3.80 metres already, looks set to establish herself as Great Britain's No 1 woman pole vaulter, while Hayley Parry, 23, who beat Diane Modahl with a highly impressive 800 metres win in 2min 2.36sec, is on the doorstep of world class.

Doug Turner's 200 metres victory in 20.61sec drew him from the margins into the world all-time top 20. Aged 30, Turner is a late developer, attributing his improvement to Jock Anderson, his coach of two years. "He could not break 22 seconds when he came to me," Anderson said.

Turner has timed his entrance perfectly, given that Linford Christie has retired from championships and John Regis is on the wane. Malcolm Arnold, Britain's head coach, described the old Turner as "a bit of a dreamer who never really put his mind to anything." Which, more or less, is what Ron Roddan used to say about Christie before, at 25, he knuckled down.

Baulch still on track

JAMIE BAULCH reaffirmed his position as favourite to win the world indoor 400 metres championship in Paris next month when, in Ghent last night, he recorded 45.46sec, the second-fastest time by a British athlete. Only Baulch himself, with the British record of 45.39sec, which he set in Birmingham on Sunday, has run quicker.

Baulch's victory over Darnell Hall, of the United States, the world indoor champion, was his second over him in two outings, though there is ample opportunity for Hall to regain the upper hand before he defends his title in Paris. This was the first of the four Ricoh indoor grand prix meetings before Paris and Baulch and Hall are due to meet again in Lievin, Stockholm and Birmingham before the month is out.

MOTOR RACING

Williams to miss start of Senna death trial

BY OLIVER HOLT

FRANK WILLIAMS, Patrick Head and Adrian Newey, the three members of the Williams Formula One team jointly accused of the manslaughter of Ayrton Senna, will probably be absent when the trial opens in Italy next week.

Williams said last month that he and his colleagues would be present at the small magistrates court in Imola, near Bologna, on February 20 for the start of what promises to be a long drawn-out case. However, he has been advised subsequently that their presence will be superfluous on a day that will be dominated by procedural detail. The three defendants will travel to the trial, which is expected to last throughout the summer and could take ten years to reach a final conclusion, later in the year.

It also emerged yesterday that, because of a procedural quirk of Italian law, Damon Hill, who was Senna's teammate on the day he was killed during the San Marino Grand Prix on May 1 1994, will be asked to give evidence for the prosecution at Imola, even though it is thought his contribution will do little to advance their case.

Bernie Ecclestone, president of the Formula One Constructors Association, will also be questioned by the prosecution and the trial is likely to feature a host of leading drivers, including Michael Schumacher, whose Benetton was following Senna's Williams when it crashed at the Tamburello corner.

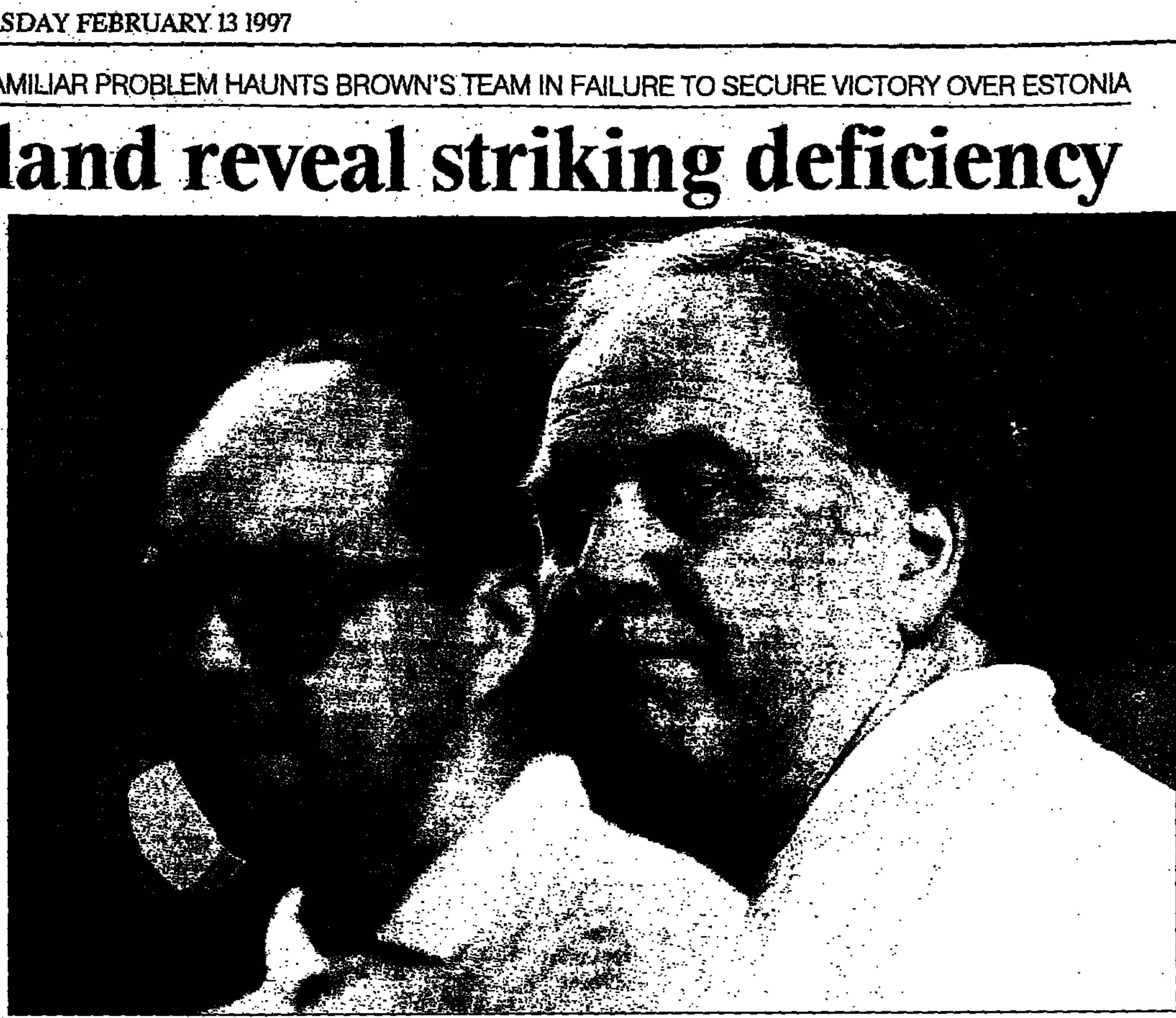
In a separate development yesterday, Max Mosley, the president of the International Motor Sport Federation, said his organisation had initiated a move towards the formulation of a Europe-wide law providing exemption to participants and officials involved in dangerous sports, such as motor racing and skiing, to prevent them being tried for manslaughter after accidents.

Rory Byrne, the former Benetton designer, will take over from John Barnard as chief designer at Ferrari next week. Byrne, a South African, will be back in harness with Ross Brawn, the Italian team's new technical director and his partner during the emergence of Benetton as a motor racing force.

FOOTBALL: FAMILIAR PROBLEM HAUNTS BROWN'S TEAM IN FAILURE TO SECURE VICTORY OVER ESTONIA

Scotland reveal striking deficiency

By Kevin McCarra



Brown's glum expression reflects Scotland's shortcomings against Estonia in Monaco. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird / Allsport

WHERE Scotland are concerned, there are always new forms of angst to be developed. The 0-0 draw with Estonia in the World Cup qualifying match played in Monaco on Tuesday night left supporters of Craig Brown's team in a muddled mental state as shock at the result mingled with a horrified recognition that such a failure was all too easy to explain.

Those unacquainted with the side's frailties set off in more esoteric directions as they sought an answer. The match would have taken place in Tallinn in October had it not been for Scotland's complaint over the floodlighting at the Kadriorg Stadium. When Fifa, football's world governing body, then brought forward the kick-off by four hours, Estonia refused to show up.

Even so, the average citizen of the Baltic state believes that Scotland were guilty of skulduggery. The result on Tuesday might therefore be interpreted as a comeuppance for Brown. "Do you think this was God's revenge?" an Estonian journalist asked the Scotland manager after the goalless draw. Brown was not willing to indulge in speculative theology.

Instead, he contented himself with the disappointingly sensible observation that his team had played very poorly. Scotland's weaknesses, however, do not lie only within this one feeble performance. In Monaco, there was an accentuated version of the problems that always beset them. Goals never do come easily to this side — they had, for example, scored just once in three games in Euro 96.

Scotland are happier when forming a determined defence than they are when facing one. In a spell before the interval on Tuesday, they might have scored four times, but poor finishing thwarted them and a dread of their own ineffectiveness ensured that the display became ever more laboured. Brown had counselled patience and it was disturbing that his words had no influence.

The frequency with which his players booted futile high crosses towards Duncan Ferguson was the equivalent of a nervous tic and it produced a result that disfigured Scotland's record in group four. Ferguson, after seven caps, is still to score for his country, but the other younger forwards in the squad have been nearly as ineffective.

There is little scope for change either in midfield, where Paul McStay, Gary McAllister and John Collins could not provide invention or the sort of individual run that might have confused Estonia's rigid defence. Nobody really imagines that there are better players around to replace them. In any case, Brown would be foolish to contemplate upheaval.

A strong position in group four has been weakened, but Scotland remain in contention. It is even possible that a draw with stubborn Estonia will not look quite so lamentable after Sweden and Austria have faced the challenge to be encountered in Tallinn. Brown's side is exasperated principally because of the encouragement it has given Austria and Sweden.

Even after the humbling night in Monaco, Scotland must be expected to defeat Estonia at Rugby Park on March 29. The ties that follow should go a long way towards determining the outcome of the group. At Celtic Park on April 2, Scotland will once again be embroiled in the uncomfortable task of attempting to dominate a home match, when they meet Austria, who have already won in Stockholm.

Brown's side does have its expertise, but it is contained within a narrow range and his players never look more effective than when they are beleaguered. Curiously, there will be feelings of relief and a resurgence of hope when Scotland contemplate their trip to Sweden on April 30.

Gould draws encouragement

By Peter Ball

FOR A 0-0 draw played in appalling conditions, there was quite a lot of satisfaction to be taken by both Wales and Ireland after the match in Cardiff on Tuesday. Although Wales had marginally the worst of it on the night, it was Bobby Gould, their manager, who found the greater encouragement yesterday.

That owed something to the performances of Mark Crossley and Karl Ready, both making their debuts, who played important parts in Wales recording a second successive clean sheet.

It owed something also to the news from Belfast, where a 3-0 victory by Northern Ireland exposed the problems of Belgium, next month's visitors to Cardiff for a game Wales must win if they are to retain any hopes of qualifying for the World Cup. And it also owed much to his latest purchase — a new set of goalposts.

But first the game. Crossley, of Nottingham Forest, Ready, of Queens Park Rangers, and Keith Branagan, of Bolton Wanderers, the Ireland goalkeeper who was also making his debut, all had their moments of luck early on in ensuring that it remained goalless. Branagan was fortunate in the opening minute when he missed Pembridge's corner, but his collision with Vinnie Jones persuaded William Young, the Scottish referee, to disallow Speed's strike.

"I went in for the header and it ended up with his arms round my neck," Jones said. "The ref said 'he'd missed it anyway, you shouldn't have gone in for it', but if he's missed it, what does it matter what I do?"

Thereafter, it was the Wales defence that was fully tested. Ready was fortunate to avoid a penalty for handball and Crossley escaped when he allowed Harte's shot to squirm out of his hands. "I told our players he makes some unbelievable saves, but he sometimes drops one, so get in around him," Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, said.

On this occasion, he recovered just in time as Cascarino came in and did not make another mistake, defying Ireland with some outstanding saves. "I had a lot to do and, with that amount of work, I'm very pleased to have come away with a clean sheet," Crossley said. "I think I showed the Welsh people that I am committed to Wales."

Ready also had a sound game, persuading Gould that, after conceding ten goals to Holland in two matches, he has the makings of a solid defence, with Alan Melville, Adrian Williams, Robbie Page and Christian Edwards also due to come into contention.

Perhaps the best news for Gould on the night was the scoreline in Belfast. "It says to our lads that the opportunity is there to beat them, that we are still in with a shout in this league," he said yesterday.

But to beat Belgium, Wales will have to score at least once and they hardly threatened to do that on Tuesday. Perhaps the return of Giggs will help, although his absence at Cardiff provided the main blot on the evening, with some fans wanting to return their tickets when he dropped out. "The Ryan Giggs situation is the one thing I've got to readdress," Gould said.

Crossley: early error

There are other preparations being made for Belgium. "Hopefully, we can reduce the size of the pitch a bit," Jones said. "That's concerning the boys. It is the biggest pitch I've ever played on in my life.

"Them continentals, they love it — for them, the bigger the pitch, the better. They can play round you. Even if you've got Superman and Steve Austin, in your side you can't close them down. So if we can reduce the size of the pitch, it might enable us to hustle a bit more and play our game."

Help is at hand. Gould has bought a state-of-the-art set of goalposts, which can be moved more readily than the old fashioned pair supplied by the Welsh Rugby Union. "I'll measure the pitch at Windsor Park inch by inch and we'll have that," Gould said.

Quinn presents fresh challenge to Dowie

A FRESH-faced supporters' favourite looks set to challenge Iain Dowie for the front-running role when Northern Ireland face Portugal in their World Cup qualifying tie next month. Dowie, the West Ham United striker, is still recovering from a broken ankle that has ruled him out of the games with Italy in Palermo and the 3-0 victory over Belgium on Tuesday night.

However, he is expected to be fit again for the March 29 meeting with the Portuguese at Windsor Park, Belfast, although the Blackpool forward, James Quinn, 22, has made such an impression since taking over that he is unlikely to be overlooked by Bryan Hamilton, the manager. Quinn, with 13 goals this season for Blackpool, has won over the Irish supporters with his mix of mobility, pace and shooting power. Hamilton said: "He has been a real find — a player who can establish himself at international level."

Hamilton now has an arsenal of strikers at his disposal, for, besides Quinn and Dowie, he can also call on Phil Gray, who is with Fortuna Sittard in Holland, Gerard McMahon, of Stoke City, Philip Mulryne, of Manchester United, and George O'Boyle, at St Johnstone. However, he said: "Let's not get carried away by the 3-0 victory over Belgium. A lot of hard work lies ahead."

Northern Ireland's hopes of qualifying for France 1998 are still remote — with Germany favourites to qualify from group nine — although victory over Portugal would keep the pot boiling. Maximum points in the away fixtures against Ukraine and Armenia in April and May would ensure a capacity crowd for the visit of the Germans to Belfast in August — a match which coincides with the opening of the new £5 million Spion Kop stand.

Hamilton is expected to include Mulryne and Jeff Whitley, the Manchester City 18-year-old midfield player, in the squad against Portugal: "We must get Whitley into a competitive fixture, which means he could not be approached by any other country, although he has assured me that he intends remaining with Northern Ireland."

Eadie puts England on course to thwart Italians

England Under-21 1
Italy Under-21 0

By Russell Kempson

ENGLAND'S youngsters stretched their lead to four points at the top of group two of the European under-21 championship qualifying series with a hard-earned victory against Italy, their nearest rivals, at Ashton Gate last night. A goal from Darren Eadie, who capitalised on a glaring error by Gianluigi Buffon, the Italy goalkeeper, capped a confident and competent all-round display.

Peter Taylor, the England coach, was forced to make eight changes from the side that won 1-0 in Georgia in November. Butt, Thatcher, Philip Neville and Duberry were the most notable absentees, with Murray, of Queens Park Rangers, and Hughes, of Arsenal, brought in for their debuts in midfield.

Conditions were hardly conducive to flowing football, with a swirling wind and driving rain making quick control and accurate passing imperative. Once the ball had been lifted in the air, into the tempest, it was virtually impossible to judge where it would come down.

England were the more composed early on, linking well in the middle through Hughes and Rose. Even the loss of Bowyer, through injury, after only 16 minutes, failed to unsettle their rhythm. Italy, as is their wont at most levels, simply sat back and absorbed everything, but not without a touch of cynicism. Franceschini and De Ascencis received cautions for appearing to single out Heskey and Eadie for special attention. Two minutes before half-time, Franceschini was sent off for another bad tackle on Heskey, which gave Roy Helga Olsen, the referee, little option but to flourish the red card.

England went ahead, in bizarre circumstances, six minutes into the second half, after a speculative punt forward by Scimeca. Buffon should have allowed the ball to run out of play, but tried to prevent it from crossing the byline, fumbled it and allowed Eadie to gain possession. Eadie then cleverly squeezed in his shot from an acute angle.

Buffon was incensed, claiming a foul by Eadie, and he raced all the way to the centre circle to confront the referee. Despite his ranting and raving, he escaped without a booking — unlike Tacchinardi and Lucarelli. Tacchinardi saw yellow for an awful challenge on Murray, Lucarelli for dissent.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 (3-5-2): A Marshall (Norwich City) — R Scimeca (Aston Villa), R Rufus (Charlton Athletic), M Carbon (Derby County) — P Murray (Queens Park Rangers), L Bowyer (Leeds United; sub: J Carragher, Liverpool, 16min), M Rose (Arsenal), S Hughes (Arsenal), M Hall (Coventry City) — E Heskey (Leicester City; sub: J Scowcroft, Ipswich Town, 89), D Eadie (Norwich City; sub: D Huckerby, Coventry City, 80).

ITALY UNDER-21 (1-2-5-2): G Buffon (Parma) — C Rivalta (Cesena) — I Franceschini (Marseilles), D Innocenti (Lucchese) — J Bachini (Lecce, sub: C Bellucci, Venezia, 70), R Goretti (Perugia; sub: T Locatelli, Udinese, 86), A Tacchinardi (Juventus), D De Ascentis (Bari), A Pistone (Internazionale) — D Morfeo (Atalanta; sub: E Pesaresi, Sampdoria, 45), C Lucarelli (Padova).

Referee: R H Olsen (Norway).

IN BRIEF

Yorkshire's move to be opposed by Headingley

THE owners of Headingley revealed yesterday that they have stepped up the campaign to keep Yorkshire cricket club at the ground, announcing that they expect to receive planning permission soon for a £30 million redevelopment of the stadium.

Paul Caddick, the chairman of Leeds Cricket, Football and Athletics, said: "Planning permission is expected shortly for the scheme, which had the blessing of both parties in May 1995. In addition, recent changes have been announced on special grant aid for stadia and Headingley could qualify. Yorkshire members, therefore, would be advised not to commit themselves to a move until the full implications are known."

The county committee is seeking support at the annual meeting on March 8 for its intended move to a greenfield site at Durkar, near Wakefield, on the M1.

Probyn enlisted

Rugby union: Jeff Probyn, the former England prop forward, will pack down with an old foe when he links up with Federico Méndez, of Bath, for the Barbarians in their rearranged game with Leicester on February 25. In 1990, the two were involved in a fracas during an England v Argentina international that resulted in Méndez being sent off.

BARBARIANS: M Rayer (Bedford and Wales); P Vaccari (Italy), L Arbizu (Argentina), R Henderson (Wasps and Ireland), D James (Bridgend and Wales); D Dominguez (Italy), A Troncon (Italy), R Hardwick (Coventry and England), F Méndez (Bath and Argentina), J Probyn (Bedford and England), C Quinnell (Richmond and Wales), P Sporleder (Argentina), R Martin (Argentina), F Pienaar (Saracens and South Africa), M White (Wasps).

Hodgson crashes

Motorcycling: Neil Hodgson, of Great Britain, was forced to undergo precautionary X-rays after a high-speed crash at Laguna Seca raceway in California. The Ducati rider posted the second fastest time of the day, 1min 26.90sec, in Superbike testing at the circuit before being involved in an accident. Hodgson, who was taken to Monterey Hospital, was not seriously injured.

Wilkinson cut

Tennis: Chris Wilkinson, 27, the British No 3, was beaten 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, by Geoff Grant, of the United States, in the second round of a Challenger tournament in Lübeck, Germany, yesterday.

☐ The United States yesterday said it will play its Davis Cup quarter-final against Holland from April 4 to 6 in Newport Beach, California.

Gooding ousted

Real tennis: There was a significant upset in the United States Open in Philadelphia yesterday when Lachlan Deuchar, the No 4 seed, beat Mike Gooding, the No 1, in five sets.

Gallup halted

Badminton: Felicity Gallup, of England, was beaten 4-11, 11-4, 11-4 in the first round of the Indian Open in New Delhi yesterday by Choi Ma-ree, of South Korea.

SNOOKER

Higgins looks for confidence

JOHN HIGGINS will attempt to join Steve Davis and Stephen Hendry as the only players to win a world ranking event for three consecutive years when the International Open opens in Aberdeen tonight (Phil Yates writes). Higgins is No 2 in the world rankings, but, after failing to capture a title for 12 months, he will not arrive at the first ranking event held in Scotland brimming with confidence.

Having made the bold decision to use a new cue last month, when patching up the original became impossible, Higgins looked to have turned the corner by beating Hendry 6-2 in a Dr Martens European League fixture.

Higgins was also impressive in reaching the quarter-finals of the Regal Welsh Open, but he lost 5-1 to John Parrott and, last week, went down 6-4 to Mark Williams in the last 16 of the Benson and Hedges Masters after one of his worst displays.

Higgins is one of 11 Scots in Aberdeen. Heading the host country's challenge for the first prize will be Hendry, in search of his fourth title this season.

TENNIS: WIMBLEDON CHAMPIONS PRESENT AND PAST GO THROUGH IN DUBAI

Krajicek starts on road to recovery

From Alix Ramsay
in Dubai

DUBAI is one of the youngest cities in the world, forming part of one of the youngest countries in the world, and yet the traditions here go back more than 2,000 years. Yesterday, at the Dubai Open, the three men of the moment were all men with a history, too, players trying to recapture some of their impressive past.

Richard Krajicek, Boris Becker and Pat Cash all made it through the first round with varying degrees of ease and all looked relieved to have got a win under their belts. For Krajicek, it was his first match back since having knee surgery in December to cure a problem that had plagued him for more than three years. Not exactly at his best, he was still too powerful for Leander Paes and went through 5-7, 6-4, 6-2.

It was not a stylish performance by anyone's standards, especially not a Wimbledon champion, but at least it proved that the knee is getting stronger day by day. Life was made a good deal simpler by Paes, who, having taken the first set with some inspired shot-making, relaxed a little, letting Krajicek back into the second. Midway through the third set, the result was assured when Paes pulled a stomach muscle stretching for a return.

Becker was in much better form against Marc-Kevin Göllner, even though he, too, needed three sets to win 6-2, 6-7, 6-2. Serving a total of 26 aces, even he was taken aback by the ease with which he took the first set. "I haven't played too many matches recently and it caught me by surprise how well I was playing," he said.

Since he won Wimbledon in 1987, Cash has made more combacks than Frank Sinatra. Injuries to virtually every part of his body, but most recently his back, have seen his world ranking plummet to No 755. It has been so long since he was competing with the top flight that he could not remember when he last won an ATP Tour match — until yesterday, when he defeated Carlos Costa 7-6, 7-6 to earn $10,080 (about £6,000), which should pay a few doctors' bills.

SQUASH: BROXBOURNE'S TASK IS EASED AS SWANSEA ARE WEAKENED

Marshall back with semi-final in sights

By Colin McQuillan

PETER MARSHALL'S return to competitive action leading the Broxbourne squad seems likely to carry the Hertfordshire side into the semi-finals of the Squash Rackets Association (SRA) national league. Having been missing from the game for nearly two years while he dealt with chronic fatigue syndrome, Marshall seems certain to lead Broxbourne, third in group B, to victory tonight against a Swansea side whose two leading players, Craig Van der Wath and David Evans, are barred from national league action after making three appearances in the Super Squash League for Maesteg.

Nevertheless, Marshall does have cloud on the horizon. His decision to switch allegiance from Leicestershire to Nottinghamshire for the National Squash Federation inter-county finals next weekend will be in jeopardy unless he catches up with his subscriptions to the SRA over the next day or so.

With Halifax beating Duffield 4-1 and Bishops Stortford thrashing Hallamshire 5-0 in group A, the informed money favours two-legged semi-finals on March 25 and April 8 featuring Halifax against Broxbourne and Potters Bar against Chichester.

Ironically, Van der Wath and Evans were not required this week for Maesteg, who were rested in the Super Squash League, while Manchester took over leadership at the half-way stage with a 2-1 win over Surbiton. Linfield, with Rodney Eyles and Peter Nicol, the world No 2 and No 3 respectively, moved into third place with a 2-1 win over ICL LionHerts.

SAILING

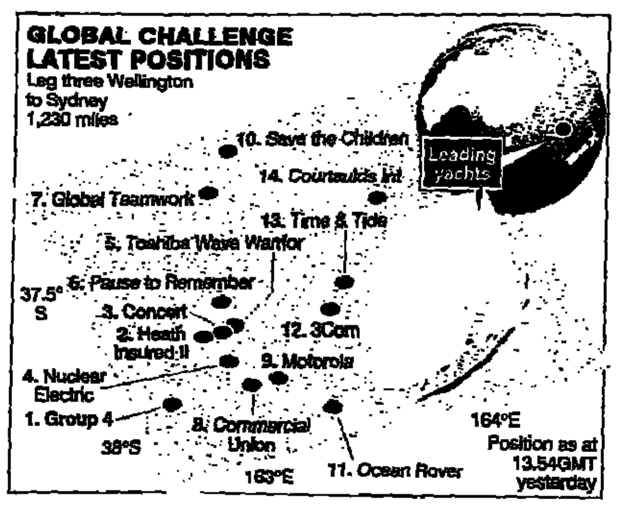
Golding leaves rivals in wake

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

FOUR days into the short third leg of the BT Global Challenge, Mike Golding, the veteran skipper of *Group 4*, yesterday resumed his customary position as race leader when he overtook Adrian Donovan, on the revitalised *Heath Insured II*.

Golding, who has won both of the first two legs, is determined to add a third consecutive victory to his tally by being first into Sydney Harbour at the weekend and so strengthen his overall hold on the race. Yesterday, he was the most southerly of the 14-boat fleet spread out over only 46 miles.

Group 4 and all the yachts astern of her have been enjoying wonderful sailing conditions with a steady breeze pushing them along at between eight and nine knots with several, including *Group 4*, able to fly spinnakers.



MILES TO SYDNEY (at 13 54 GMT yesterday): 1, Group 4 671 miles; 2, Heath Insured II 628; 3, Concert 628; 4, Nuclear Electric 629; 5, Toshiba Wave Warrior 629; 6, Pause To Remember 630; 7, Global Teamwork 633; 8, Commercial Union 633; 9, Motorola 633; 10, Save The Children 639; 11, Ocean Rover 647; 12, 3Com 650; 13, Time & Tide 654; 14, Courtaulds International 664.

In the last 24 hours, Chris Tibbs and his crew on *Concert*, which was de-masted on the second leg, have been among the improvers, rising to third place after overtaking Richard Tudor, on *Nuclear Electric*.

However, Tudor's position may be little more than academic, because he could be disqualified from the leg following a protest by Richard Merriweather, skipper of *Commercial Union*. He alleges Tudor missed a compulsory waypoint in the Cook Strait by 100 yards shortly after the start.

Donovan's performance, on *Heath Insured II*, is a surprise. Disillusioned and angry at times during the last leg, it was thought possible he might even abandon the race in Wellington after falling out with Chay Blyth, the race director, while also experiencing some difficulites with his sponsor. Yet the five-week rest in New Zealand appears to have done him good.

Yesterday, his crew reported disappointment at being overhauled by Golding, but said morale was high and they could now see *Toshiba Wave Warrior* and *Nuclear Electric* astern of them.

[هكذا من الاهمال]

Rugby players take steps to improve fitness

With ballroom dancing lobbying hard to get into the Olympic Games by 2004, it seems that dance is stepping ever closer to the world of sport.

Its latest partner, unlikely as it sounds, is rugby union. Rugby players at Cambridge University have apparently found that something was lacking in their training — and have taken up ballet.

The squad at Queens' College have called in a ballerina to help them with their conditioning and are using ballet routines that they hope will improve their flexibility and balance — and help to keep them injury free.

Showing the pack how it should be done is Sara Matthews, a 31-year-old who was with the Ballet Rambert for 11 years. She is also working with the college rowing eights. It is an interesting approach, especially since many have been critical of rugby's traditional standard of fitness.

The use of dance for sports conditioning is an example of what fitness gurus call cross-training. Until recently, the typical athlete pursued only his own sport. Today, the wisdom is that an athlete can derive significant benefit from other activities, such as weight training, and from training in other sports.

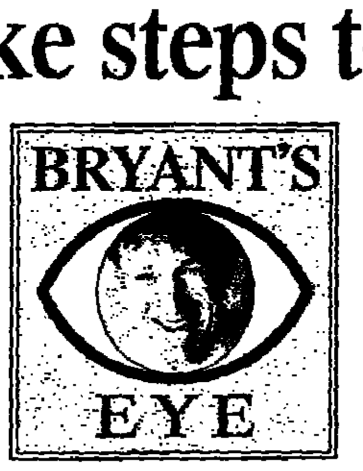
In the United States, professional sportsmen, including baseball players, American footballers and basketball teams, regularly use karate, aerobic dancing, yoga and ballet to supplement their training regimes.

However, whether or not British ballet dancers are the best people to be advising anybody on physical fitness is highly questionable. According to a report published last October, many of Britain's 25,000 professional dancers are so unfit that they sustain more injuries than players in contact sports such as rugby and boxing.

'They hope to improve flexibility'

The myth of the superfit dancer exercising at the *barre* was exploded by the "Fit to Dance?" report that was written after a five-year survey into dancers' health and injuries. It found that they took the wrong kind of exercise, ate the wrong kind of food and smoked too much.

More than eight out of ten dancers are injured each year and they are also more prone than the average person to colds and flu. And it is not just ballet dancers who suffer. The study reached similar conclusions after looking at all kinds of professional dancers.



Dancers, the report concluded, sacrificed all-round fitness for the demands of flexibility. Such role models look a bit shaky, even for college rugby players.

The champions of ballroom dancing, who have won recognition from the International Olympic Committee, protest that "dance sport" makes tremendous demands on strength and stamina and should be included as a full gold medal sport.

Though the moves to get dancing recognised as a sport are relatively recent, dance has long been acknowledged as an aid to physical fitness. Duke Adolphus Frederick of Mecklenburg, writing almost a century ago, recorded remarkable athletic performances by the Watussi tribesmen of central Africa.

He was particularly impressed by their high jumping and photographed one tribesman making a leap of 8ft 2⅓ins, taking off from a small termite heap a foot in height. He noted that these natives got splendid conditioning during tribal dances, performing vertical jumps to the rhythm of drums.

Back in Britain in the same era, Harry Andrews, who coached record-breaking runners and cyclists, was writing that dancing was a fine aid to athletic performance — though he had reservations about the smoky atmosphere of dance halls.

'Pioneers did not see dance as sport'

Thirty years later, the ultra-distance running champion, Arthur Newton, reckoned the use of music and rhythm was one of the secrets of breaking endurance records. He observed that soldiers could march further and faster when helped by the beat of a marching band and advocated humming and whistling while training. He hoped that someone might one day invent a phonograph small enough to be carried by a runner — dreaming of the personal stereo 40 years before its time.

What all these pioneers had in common is that they saw the value of music and dancing as a conditioning tool for sport — but never as sport itself. Dancing, like massage, skipping, stretching and callisthenics, might be a useful way to keep fit, but could never be confused with the real business of competitive effort.

Whether ballet lessons will affect the competitive efforts of the Queens' College Cambridge rugby players remains to be seen. It might change their sporting lives. A couple of seasons ago, a budding soccer player, Nick Garbutt, who, at the age of 11, was top scorer for a Sutton Coldfield boys' team, took ballet lessons to improve his skills. As a result, he won a place at the Royal Ballet School in London and swapped his football boots for *pointe* shoes.

He might, of course, end up coaching rugby players.

JOHN BRYANT

SKIING

Tomba slip paves way for Swiss

By Our Sports Staff

ALBERTO TOMBA, the darling of the home crowds, had been competing for barely a minute yesterday when he pulled up to relinquish his giant slalom title to Michael von Grünigen, of Switzerland, at the alpine skiing world championships in Sestriere, Italy.

Tomba, whose season has been plagued by injury and illness, decided not to pursue his defence after almost falling on the early stages of his opening run, leaving the way clear for Von Grünigen to secure his first world title with an elegant and commanding performance from start to finish.

In contrast to the showman, Tomba, the Swiss is a quiet, family man and his composure on the slopes secured a second gold medal for his country at the championships. Von Grünigan, the World Cup giant slalom champion, recorded a winning time of 2min 48.23sec, 1.12sec ahead of Lasse Kjus, of Norway, who took his third silver medal.

Andreas Schifferer, of Austria, was the surprising bronze medal-winner, starting seventeenth on the first leg before moving up from ninth place at the start of the second to beat Steve Locher, of Switzerland, by 0.03sec.

Schifferer had not been expected to qualify for the Austria team and his place on the podium came only a year after he suffered severe bruising of the brain in a downhill training crash in Kitzbühel. Kjus had also suffered concussion in a fall during the same session.

Tomba's followers had been gathering near the piste since dawn and were out in force, with banners and klaxons, to cheer on their hero. However, they fell silent when the the triple Olympic gold medal-winner came close to falling. Realising that it was useless to try to get back into the race, Tomba, 30, skied straight off the course.

While Tomba was left with time on his hands, Von Grünigen used the interval between the two legs to play with his three-year-old son. The Swiss, whose supporters have so far come up with no more imaginative a nickname than MVG, said that he had learnt a lot from defeat by Tomba at the Sierra Nevada championships last year.

Tomba had not been a worry for him, he said, given the Italian's poor form in giant slaloms this season and he had been more concerned about Kjus and the Norwegian combined gold medal-winner, Kjetil-Andre Aamodt, who was fourth after the first run.

"Last year, I was the favourite for the event, but I could not deal with the pressure," Von Grünigen said. He is the first Swiss since Pirmin Zurbriggen, in Crans Montana in 1987, to capture a giant slalom world title.

"I learnt a lot from last year and found I could put the pressure on the others," he said. "This was my biggest goal this season and I feel I deserved this medal."

Von Grünigen, who has won two World Cup giant slalom races this season, was the first out of the start-house on the first run and took advantage of the clean snow to record by far the fastest time. Later starters found it hard to keep to the line.

Six of the first 15 crashed out, including some of the favourites for the race, such as Urs Kaelin, of Switzerland. Tomba complained that the run had been too long and that the conditions, with patches of light and shade, were treacherous. Others also criticised conditions for the first leg.

"I'm very sorry, but Saturday will be my day," Tomba said, referring to the closing event, the men's slalom, which he will also be defending.

Toni Sailer, of Austria, who won three golds at the 1956 Olympic Games, defended the lay-out of the first run and said that it was the sort of traditional and highly demanding giant slalom that had gone out of fashion in recent years.

Kjus, who also won silver medals in the downhill and super giant slalom events, had no complaints about his race. "The championships are over for me now and I'm going home to enjoy my medals," the 1996 World Cup overall champion said after securing his first medal in the technical discipline.

ERIC GAILLARD

Tomba passes a gate before withdrawing in an ill-fated defence of his giant slalom title at Sestriere yesterday

Results, page 46

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City v Watford (at Clevedon FC, 2.0); Southampton v Wimbledon (7.30).

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Everton v Sheffield Wednesday (at Southport FC, 7.0).

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch v Knowle (7.30)

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Christchurch v Cowes Sports (7.30)

SCHOOLS MATCHES. Victory Shield under-15 international: Wales v England (at Ninian Park, Cardiff, 7.15). English Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Langford Community (Middlesex) v Lord Williams (Oxfordshire) (1.30). English Goodyear Under-16 Trophy: St Mathews (Greater Manchester) v Pomyfields (West Midlands) (2.30). English Girls Under-16 Vimto Trophy: Seaton Burn (Northumberland) v Newsome (West Yorkshire) (2.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Fourth-round replay
Hull v Huddersfield (7.30)

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches
Bristol v Auckland (7.30)
Richmond v Otago (7.45)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: 7-Up Trophy: Semi-finals, second leg: Leicester Riders (88) v Chester Jets (92) (8.0); London Towers (74) v Sheffield Sharks (75) (8.0)

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle Cobras v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.0); Manchester Storm v Sheffield Steelers (7.30); Cardiff Devils v Bracknell Bees (7.0)

SNOOKER: International Open (in Aberdeen)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 46

QUAESTUARY

(c) Somebody whose first and only motivation is to make a profit. From the Latin for profit, *quaestus*. For example, a quaestuary is a teenage child who will wash up or vacuum the sitting-room or baby-sit or make its bed only if paid to do so.

CONTRECTATION

(b) The act of stroking or caressing somebody furtively and against her (or his) will. From the Latin. "Are we agreed then? We shall begin by asking all candidates about their educational qualifications and their skills in relation to the selection criteria for human resources — communication, administration, finance, contrectation and so on ..."

CURMUDGEON

(b) A cantankerous old codger. Both *curmudgeon* and *codger* apply exclusively to men. There appears to be no female equivalent. Perhaps *old cow* or *grimalkin* (an old she-cat or spiteful old woman) comes closest to it. But the words are not synonymous. Can it be that women are by nature less curmudgeonly than men?

NULLIBIETY

(b) The state of being nowhere. The opposite of *ubiquity*. From the Latin. This is a word for which it is difficult to conceive any practical use in the world. But no conceivable word can be entirely useless. "When there is a job to be done about the house, I know I can rely absolutely on Anatole's nullibiety."

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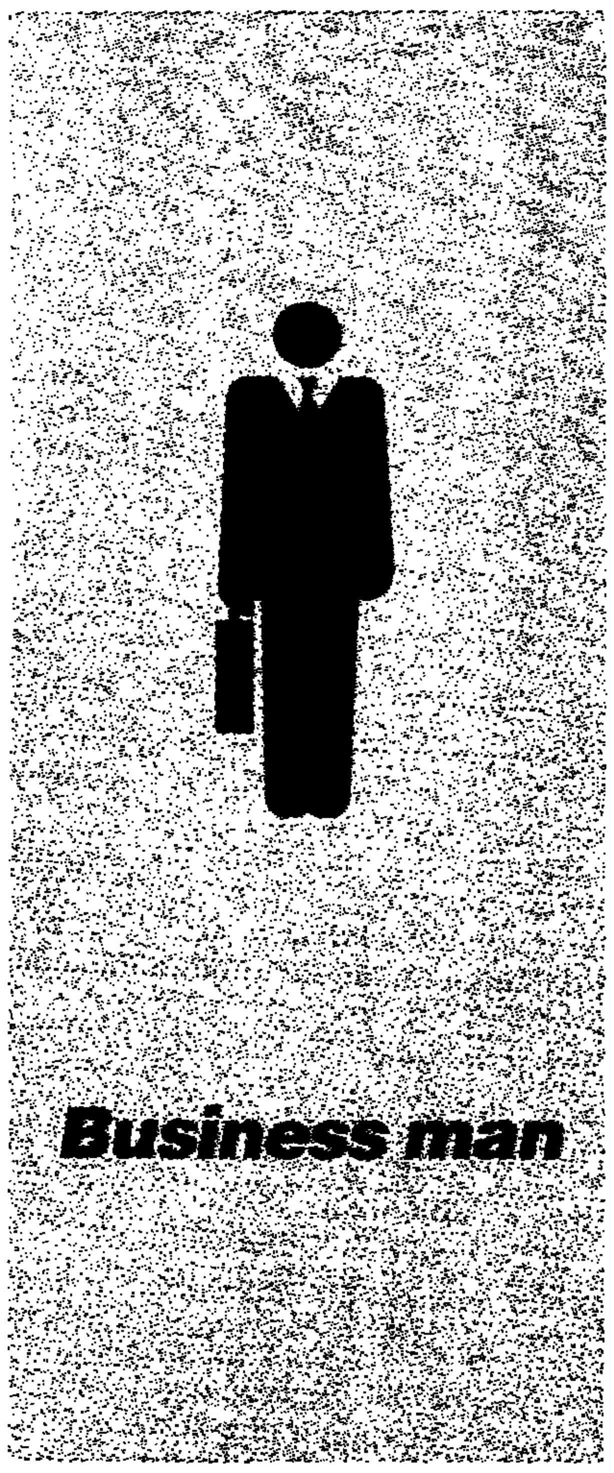

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RADIO CHOICE

Trouble on the terraces

In The Balance. *Radio 4 (FM only), 10.00am.*

Start of an amusing comedy-drama by Mark Tavener which has fun at the expense of football, the BBC and politics. It features Michael Williams as George Cragge, former BBC crime reporter who has been made "special adviser on editorial policy" (ie put in charge of complaints) after an unfortunate incident in a lift involving the Archbishop of Canterbury. But Cragge returns to the crime beat when a political lobbyist is found dead at Wembley Stadium, where England are preparing to host the World Cup. BBC watchers will recognise the director of personnel ("maximise leading edge product") and the fact that the real BBC, incredibly, does not have a crime correspondent.

Teenagers in Love. *Radio 2, 10.00pm.*

Samuel Goldwyn once said that nostalgia ain't what it used to be and this programme is the proof. It is in fact the second of a three-part series by the American disc jockey Randall Lee Rose on the doo-wop era in pop, which ran from the middle 1950s to the early 1960s. There is plenty to bring a tear to the eye (and a tap to the foot) of the generation that grew up after the Second World War, notably the age of teenage innocence evoked by such acts as Dion and the Belmonts and Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers. But for every track worth recalling there were at least ten that sounded plain silly and Rose pays due attention to them.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00am Simon Mayo, includes Newsbeat **9.00** Kevin Greening **12.00** *Mary Anne Hobbs, includes at* **12.30pm** *Newsbeat* **2.00** *Nicky Campbell* **4.00** *Mark Goodier* **7.00** *Evening Session,* with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Collins and Maconie's Hit Parade, includes Universally Challenged **10.00** Stuart Maconie **12.00** Claire Sturgess **4.00am** Clive Warren, with the *Early Breakfast Show*

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up To Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Anne Robinson **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** I'm Sorry I Haven't Got a Clue. With *Humphrey Lyttelton, Barry Cryer, Graeme Garden, Tim Brooke-Taylor and the late Willie Rushton (r)* **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones **10.00** Teenagers in Love. See Choice **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, with Valerie Sanderson **7.35** On the Line **8.00** Inside Edge, with Rob Bonnet **9.00** SportsAmerica, with Alton Byrd **9.30** Sportshop **10.00** *News Talk, with Paul Reynolds* **11.00** *News Extra* **12.05am** After Hours — Early Call, with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr *7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd* **4.00** *Peter Deeley* **7.00** *Moz Dee's* Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. *News on the hour.*
5.30am Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shelf **7.30** Network UK **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Composer of the Month **8.45** Health Matters **9.05** Business **9.15** Sports International **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.30** Meridian On Screen **12.05pm** Business **12.15** *Britain Today* **12.30** Assignment **2.05** *Outlook* **2.30** *Multitrack* **3.05** *Sports Roundup* **3.15** From Our Own Correspondent **3.30** Network UK **4.15** World Today **4.30** BBC English **4.45** Britain Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.30** Assignment **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** John Peel **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** *Meridian Books* **10.30** *World Today* **10.45** *Sport* **11.10** *Take Five* **11.15** *Soundbyte* **11.30** *World Ranking* **12.30am** Good Books **12.45** Britain Today **1.30** Outlook **1.55** Words of Faith **2.30** A History of the British Theatre **3.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am *Mark Griffiths* **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. (Salvador Bacarisse (Guitar Concertino in A minor Op 72) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight, with John Brunning **7.30** Sonata. Beethoven (Piano Sonata No 8 in C minor, Op 13) **8.00** Evening Concert. *Offenbach (La Belle Hélène: Overture); Berlioz (Les Nuits d'Eté); Gershwin (An American in Paris); Haydn (Symphony No 85 in B flat minor); Ravel* (Daphnis et Chloé Suite No 2) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** *Graham Dene* **1.00pm** *Jeremy Clark* **4.00** *Nicky Horne* **7.00** *Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin* Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randall Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air**, *with Andrew* McGregor. Sussmayr (Basset Clarinet Concerto Movement in D); Dvořák (Symphony No 9 in E minor); Britten (Rejoice in the Lamb); Schumann (Konzertstuck in F); Susato (Eight Galliards); Haydn (Symphony No 48 in C)
9.00 **Morning Collection.** *Includes Mozart (March in D No 2)*; Rimsky-Korsakov (Sadko); Chopin (Two Nocturnes, Op 32); Borodin (String Quartet No 2 in D)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Edward Blakeman, includes Gesualdo (Motet Ave, Dulcissima Maria); Debussy, transcr Ravel (*Nuages; Fetes, Nocturnes*); Copland (In the Beginning)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Schumann
1.00pm Schubert on Stage. Der Hausliche Krieg. With Soile Isokoski, soprano, Peter Lika, bass, Rodrigo Orrego and Andreas Fischer, tenors, Chorus Musicus, Das Neue Orchester, under Christoph Spering
2.20 The Bohemian Quartet. Penny Gore presents the last in a series devoted to string quartets by Bohemian contemporaries of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, played by the Salomon Quartet: Adalbert Gyrowetz (String Quartets, Op 44: No 1 in G; No 2 in B flat)
3.10 Bosco Does the Samba: Protest (4/5)
3.15 Visitors to the Proms. Philippe Herreweghe conducts the Chorus and Orchestra of the Ghent Collegium Vocale. Bach (Cantata No 105; *Motet: Der Geist Hilft Unser Schwachheit Auf; Mass in G minor*)
4.20 In a Danish Castle. Hans Fagius plays the organ at the Royal Castle in Frederiksborg Palace, Copenhagen
5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson
5.15 *In Tune, with Geraint Lewis. Includes Haydn (Spring);* Schubert (The Shepherd on the Rock); Hoddinott (The Heaventree of Stars); Bruckner (Abendzauber); Sibelius (Violin Concerto)
7.30 Brahms Centenary. Live from the Barbican, London. The London Symphony Orchestra, under Colin Davis. Brahms (Piano Concerto No 1 in D minor); **8.20** *Interval.* Frank Whitford explores Viennese culture (r) **8.40** Concert Part 2. Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E minor)
9.40 The Outline around the Shadow. Deanna Petherbridge looks at the *many examples of artists having recorded their travels* through sketching (4/5)
10.15 Music Restored. Wyneke Jordans and Leo van Doeselaar play pianos from the collection of Edwin Beunk. Includes Schubert (Overture *in D in the Italian Style)* and Mendelssohn (Overture: A Midsummer Night's Dream)
10.45 Night Waves. David Treece explores the links between politics and music
11.30 Composers of the Week: Ockeghem (r)
12.30am **Jazz Notes**, with *Digby* Fairweather
1.00 Through the Night, *with* John Shea

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, includes Thought for *the Day* **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News 9.05 Face to Face (r)
9.30 The University. A strike hits the campus (6/7)
10.00 News; In the Balance (FM). See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with *Jenni* Murray
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. Reports from BBC correspondents around the world
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm **Double Vision,** with Miles *Kington and Edward Enfield (r)* **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Gift from the North, by David Pownall. With Barry Foster and Brian Glover
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan and Ray Kershaw
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. *Paul Allen sees Eric Sykes and Peter Bowles in a new production of Moliere's The School for Wives*
4.45 Short Story: Tomatoes, Flamingoes and Lemmings, by Alex Keegan. Read by Donna Edwards
5.00 PM 5.45 Party Political Broadcast, by the Conservative Party **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 *Jeremy Hardy Speaks to* **the Nation,** with Debbie Isitt and Gordon Kennedy
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Document. An exploration of diaries of people trapped by *the Wehrmacht in the Leningrad siege during the* Second World War *(2/6)*
8.00 Analysis. George Monbiot examines the conflict between scientific advance and human ethics
8.45 The Red Hills of Home. The novelist Chenjerai Hove *reflects on Zimbabwe's history (6/6)*
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? *The programme made for, and by,* people with disabilities. With Frederick Dove
9.30 Kaleidoscope (FM) (r) **9.59** Weather
9.30-11.30 Test Match Special (LW). Coverage of the first day of the third Test from Christchurch
10.00 **The World Tonight (FM),** with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: House of Splendid Isolation (FM). *Written and read by Edna* O'Brien (4/10)
11.00 New Found Land: Sweet Betsey (FM), by *Donna Di* Novelli. With Donna Goodhand
11.30 Close Ups. Nigel Andrews talks to the actor Rod Steiger (2/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Regeneration (FM), by Pat Barker. Read by Alice Arnold (4/10)
12.30-4.30 Test Match Special (LW) *Continued coverage*
12.48 Shipping Forecast (FM)
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

THE TIMES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13 1997

Glad to get off the emotional rollercoaster

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

It was a real shame **Common as Muck** (BBC1) fell to pieces in the second series. Great actors, great characters, but the many plots were annoyingly half-baked and far-fetched — a real come-down from the masterpiece William Ivory achieved last time. As an emotional journey the past six weeks have relied repeatedly on the same rollercoaster device of sin and forgiveness, transgression and redemption, varied by being bad and saying sorry, and turning on your mates and crawling back.

All this relentless upsy-downsy made your head spin. It made you feel sick. Your hat blew off. Poor Jonno (Stephen Lord) was up and down like a gooseberry in a lift. Meanwhile, that goddam battered human spirit just kept on reblossoming among the lads, with defiant histrionics bang on cue. "Who they hell do you think you are, anyway?" snarled Paul Shane in last night's absurdly contrived climax, and I admit I whimpered in alarm. "Don't ask proud-that!" I said. "Don't ask man Nev who he thinks he is! We'll be here all night!"

With telly drama awash with cops and nonsense, however, *Common as Muck* still shone out as a golden exception. It took its cue, I reckon, from the last act of *Death of a Salesman*, when somebody says grandly "Attention must be paid" and everyone realises that even Willy Loman is a tragic figure, despite never getting his picture in the newspaper. On a less elevated plane, *Common as Muck* has certainly done no harm to anybody's career, either; hence the unholy stampede by good actors to play unrewarding bit-parts, thus inducing rubber-necking to go with the vertigo and travel-sickness.

Michael Angelis turned up out of nowhere; Frank Finlay took a part that had no beginning and (worse) no end. Last night we even had Alexei Sayle playing a prison guard for a maximum of 30 seconds. Was he a purely comic prison guard? Why did he help George Ward escape? No idea. On and then off again, that was his lot. But outstanding in this second series were Jonno and Marie (Stephen Lord and Michelle Holmes), and also Kathy Burke as hairdresser Sharon, who had the advantage of a fairly stable character to work with. She was so convincing, in fact, that I never once questioned whether she could really cut hair.

On BBC2, **Counterblast** kicked off with London GP Mike Fitzpatrick in the role of Jeremiah, warning modern society against its tendency to over-indulge its children. Previous generations, it seems, were less protective of offspring, didn't supervise their every move. By not letting children dominate their lives; they had more time to express themselves as adults. They didn't fret about their parenting skills, or attend support groups. And most significantly, they didn't revere childhood, as if their kids had clouds of glory visibly still attached to their trainers.

All this sounded like good sense. It is indeed regrettable that children don't play games in the street any more, or run off by themselves. As Penelope Leach said, they are nowadays under a kind of house arrest — picked up from school, supervised at home, chaperoned to classes, watched all the time. Dr Mike enlisted Bryan Appleyard and Christina Hardyment to back him up, and interviewed lots of harassed-looking parents, whose children squirmed on their knees. Parents' lives are rubbish. They feel inadequate. They really need to get out more.

What I couldn't understand about this *Counterblast* was its claim to contentiousness. Parents wouldn't disagree with it; they surely know in their hearts that something has gone horribly wrong. A friend of mine once told me she would do anything for her toddler's happiness because: "After all, she didn't ask to be born" — a positively insane way of looking at it, which predictably ended in tears. Dr Mike was all sympathy for the parents' plight, but had put his finger neatly on an important modern dilemma. How many of us really want to be grown-ups? How many of us actually know how?

Still at playground level, **Trouble at the Top** (BBC2) concerned the ousting of Janet Street-Porter at Canary Wharf — the tribulations of her precious, hard-working Live TV channel and the subsequent arrival of Kelvin MacKenzie and topless darts. The story was perhaps too well-known to be gripping, but this was still an enjoyable documentary, with lots of shots of Kelvin's hilarious "News Bunny" — a man in a rabbit costume, miming exaggerated reactions to the news.

I never saw Live TV in its early incarnation, but when Street-Porter described it "taking you to the parties where you weren't invited", I realised she'd made a major slip-up. Don't rub it in that nerdy viewers can only manage virtual lives, Janet. We have our pride (ask Nev). As for broadcasting a live swanky dinner party in the studio, it presupposes an audience so sad and lonely that nobody would admit to being a member of it. MacKenzie said the channel insulted viewers' intelligence, but it was their meagre social lives it really seemed to be getting at.

Whereas, topless darts — well, it's got a kind of integrity. MacKenzie explained that cable channels only aspire to a few minutes of our attention. Half an hour, and they're in heaven. Street-Porter had aimed her channel at the under-25s, whereas Kelvin knew the truth about the infantilisation of British culture (having been partly responsible for it, of course). "We are surfing food," he said. And I suppose it showed a certain maturity to admit it.

6.00am Business Breakfast (80435)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (89685)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (8793955)
9.20 Style Challenge (1423394)
9.45 Kilroy (6861058)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (31955)
11.00 News (T) and weather (6430961)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (3331110)
11.35 Change That (5259139)
12.00 News (T) (6449787)
12.05 pm The Alphabet Game (5952955)
12.30 Going for a Song (7309690)
12.55 The Weather Show (34350936)
1.00 News (T) and weather (82752)
1.30 Regional News (98357619)
1.40 Neighbours (T) (20846110)
2.05 Quincy (8294690)
2.50 Put It to the Test (2012665)
3.15 Miniature Worlds (2462058)
3.30 Playdays (1655400) **3.50** Casper Classics (2843961) **3.55** Wham! Bam! Strawberry Jam! (7459665) **4.10** Free Willy (9822874) **4.35** The Really Wild Show (6250868)
5.00 Newsround (T) (7117936)
5.10 Grange Hill (T) (1490110)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (502619)
6.00 News (T) and weather (918)
6.30 Regional News (110)
7.00 Watchdog (T) (7416)
7.30 EastEnders The truth finally dawns on Alan, whose love life has been somewhat turbulent of late. Elsewhere, Frankie makes some unlikely friends (T) (394)
8.00 **Wildlife on One** Footage of pygmy chimps, human beings' closest living relatives (T) (6856)
8.30 Next of Kin Philip dreads the prospect of the school dance when he discovers his grandparents are planning to use the occasion to show off their jiving skills. Meanwhile, Georgia entertains a mystery guest (T) (2771)
9.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party (433077)
9.05 News (T) and weather (384597)
9.35 The X Files The duo investigate the bizarre claims of an imprisoned serial killer who maintains he was possessed by a murderous gargoyle. As Mulder finds evidence that he may be telling the truth, Scully searches for a more rational explanation (T) (655955)
10.20 The Frank Skinner Show (686232)
10.50 Question Time David Dimbleby takes the chair in Leeds as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, the Shadow Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, former Liberal Leader Sir David Steele and chairman of the Homeowners Friendly Society, Rosalind Gilmore, field questions from members of the public (T) (310145)
11.50 FILM: A Cry for Help (1989) with Nancy McKeon, Dale Midkiff and Graham Jarvis. Real-life drama about a battered woman whose experiences of abuse at the hands of her husband eventually led to a change in state law. Directed by Robert Markowitz (755684)
1.20am Weather (7427288)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Body Plans (6657313) **6.25** Insect Diversity (6749348) **6.50** Molluscs, Mechanisms and Minds (5636394) **7.15** News (6713400) **7.30** Secret Squirrel and Co
7.55 Blue Peter (r) **8.20** Wishing (r) **8.35** The Record **9.00** The Science Collection (1434400) **9.25** Job Bank (8979394) **9.40** Megamaths (2371077) **10.00** Playdays (47145)
10.30 Storytime (9492413) **10.45** Teaching Today (376110) **11.15** In Living Memory (2444348) **11.35** Landmarks (T) **11.55** Techno **12.15pm** Quinze Minutes Plus (3129446) **12.30** Working Lunch (53619) **1.00** Lifeschool (24652435)
1.25 Isabel 1.45 Numbertime (98261868) **2.00** Wishing (r) (25661446) **2.10** Everyone's Got One (9166936) **3.00** News (T) and weather (1400459) **3.05** Westminster (T) (2620690) **3.55** News (T) (2840874) **4.00** Today's the Day (333) **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (435)
5.00 Esther (2394)
5.30 The Village: Bentley, Hampshire (594690) **5.55** Turning Points (r)
6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (T) (347416) **6.45** Quantum Leap (r) (T)
7.30 First Sight The District Council of Welwyn and Hatfield has been ordered to pay £50 million compensation to a property developer (936)
8.00 Disaster Classified documents are used in the reconstruction of a struggle to prevent a catastrophic nuclear accident on a submarine in October 1986. The crew struggled for three days to deal with fires after the explosion of a missile. Narrated by John Nettles (T) (4706)
8.30 Top Gear Jeremy Clarkson tests the pulling power of Japanese alternatives to executive cars; Steve Berry rides the Triumph 595, the long-awaited British bike that is taking on the Ducatis and the Honda Fireblades (T) (1923)
9.00 Third Rock from the Sun Dick decides it is time the Solomons joined an ethnic group (T) (732690)

Anthropologist Guillen (9.25pm)

9.25 **Horizon: Ice Mummies** Beautifully dressed bodies of children buried high up in the Andes were so perfectly preserved that they appeared to be asleep (T) (809077)
10.15 Before I Die People facing death describe the experience (299400)
10.25 Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party (643787)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (760771)
11.15 Late Review (712394)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (47530)
12.30am Learning Zone: The Creation of Childhood (24191) **1.00** Global Media (46559) **2.00** FETV Short Cuts **4.00** Greek/French (54085) **5.00-5.59** Business and Work

CHOICE

Wildlife on One: Pygmy Chimpanzee

BBC1, 8.00pm

There is, thankfully, very little violence in this film from the forests of Zaire, although an altercation between young chimpanzees leaves one of them with a painfully damaged finger. But sex is something else. The bonobo, the species of chimp under discussion, uses sex not just for reproduction but to relieve tension. Sir David Attenborough's commentary spares us the euphemisms: everyone does it to everyone else, irrespective of age or gender. Pictorial evidence is thankfully discreet. The bonobo were the last type of ape to be discovered and are in danger of being the first to disappear. Humans are destroying their natural habitat and hunting them for food and fewer than 5,000 remain. But they are survivors, not least the hero of the film, an eight-year-old orphan called Shijimi.

Reckless

ITV, 9.00pm

A young surgeon (Robson Green) falls in love with an older married woman (Francesca Annis) and they embark on a fraught affair. At least that is the crux of Paul Abbott's drama, though viewers made impatient by the pre-publicity might be wondering how long it will take for the couple to get there. The opening episode had Green's Dr Owen returning to Manchester to look after his sick father, taking a new hospital post and having a brief fling with a 17-year-old. Only right at the end did he tell Annis's Anna what he felt for her. Abbott keeps us in suspense for a while longer tonight, as Anna tries to back off and Dr Owen seems to have lost his chance. But Abbot offers enough by way of ingenious plotting to hold the attention and to provide unexpected glosses on what would otherwise be a standard tale of adultery.

Dispatches

Channel 4, 9.00pm

In its best campaigning mood, *Dispatches* alleges that cutbacks in funding are having a serious effect on the competence and safety of the Royal Air Force. The programme claims to identify specific cases where cuts have compromised safety and points out that the crash rate among RAF planes last year was the worst since the Gulf War. According to RAF technicians, there are not enough engineers to service planes between flights, work is not properly checked and planes are cannibalised because of the shortage of spare parts. The reduction in flying hours is blamed for a crash in which a pilot was killed. The other main charge is that the cuts have undermined the the RAF's capability. A former Tornado pilot says: "We are not even ready for a minor combat role." The Ministry of Defence rejects all the claims.

Ice Mummies — Horizon Special

BBC2, 9.25pm

Not one frozen body but several feature in the final part of this *Horizon* mini series. All are of children, all were discovered in South America and they bear striking testimony to the religious practices of the Incas who once dominated a large part of the continent. The Spanish, who arrived in 1532, found an empire bigger than that of ancient Rome and have left detailed records of the Inca civilisation. But modern archaeology has been able to supplement this information and, in places, to challenge its accuracy. As throughout this series, we can be dazzled by the ability of science to glean so much from frozen human remains hundreds of years old. The story of how these children were taken up a mountain and sacrificed to the gods is pieced together in all its (to us) horrifying detail. **Peter Waymark**

HTV

6.00am GMTV (1337023)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1431313)
9.55 Regional News (T) (5589077)
10.00 The Time, The Place (61771)
10.30 This Morning (T) (33769936)
12.20pm Regional News (T) (6446690)
12.30 News (T) and weather (7301058)
12.55 Shortland Street (T) (7319077)
1.25 Home and Away (T) (15969400)
1.50 Afternoon Live (20851042)
2.20 Vanessa (T) (30750042)
2.50 Afternoon Live (5767684)
3.20 News (T) (7905049)
3.25 Regional News (T) (2850990)
3.30 The Riddlers (7547874) **3.40** Wizadora (9165936) **3.50** Winnie the Pooh (1651684) **4.15** Mike and Angelo (9743313) **4.40** Sticky (3342503)
5.10 A Country Practice (7717313)
5.40 ITN News (T) and weather (940400)
6.00 Home and Away Selina questions her relationship with Jesse (r) (T) (226)
6.30 HTV News (706)
7.00 Emmerdale A new arrival shocks the village and Chris takes out his anger on Biff (T) (9684)

A nomadic archer (7.30pm)

7.30 Survival: Wilderness Warriors In the last of this series, Joel Bennett's film examines the lives of the Mongolian nomads who live in the deserts and steppes of Central Asia and whose traditions have changed little over the centuries. He illustrates their horse-riding and archery skills and customs such as wrestling and herding (T) (690)
8.00 The Bill: Take Away Sergeant Ackland investigates when a prisoner claims he has been poisoned by a pizza (1232)
8.30 Michael Barrymore's Strike It Rich (T) (4139)
9.00 CHOICE **Reckless** Anna is finding it hard to come to terms with Owen's declaration of love. But he has discovered something to his advantage — that Richard is not the doting husband she thinks he is (T) (9961)
10.00 Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the the Conservative Party (387619)
10.05 News at Ten (T) and weather (682416) **10.35** Regional News (T) (230690)
10.45 Club Rugby: Visit of the Auckland Blues (590023)
11.45 Hunter (451771)
12.40am In Bed with Me Dinner (7505559)
1.10 Funny Business (8462356)
1.40 Cyber Cafe (9505202)
2.10 Late and Loud (2937801)
3.05 ITV Sport Classics (35731207)
3.35 The Good Sex Guide Late (2572462)
4.30 The Time, the Place (13646)
5.00 The New Mr and Mrs Show (99578)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7319077)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7717313)
6.25 Central News (424313)
10.45 Do I Not Like That! (590023)
11.45 Bagdad Cafe (267503)
12.15am Beyond Reality (48801)
12.45 Funny Business (5209269)
1.20 Ed's Night Party (5178172)
1.50 Club Nation (7774004)
2.45 Shift (9374511)
3.40 Planet Rock Profiles (60197004)
4.05 Central Jobfinder '97 (4015998)
5.20 Asian Eye (2605207)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 Emmerdale (7319077)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7717313)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (52936)
10.45 Power Game (278619)
11.15 The Fisherman's Tale (268232)
11.45 Traps (451771)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7717313)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (226)
6.30-7.00 Getaways (706)
10.50 FILM: She Woke Up (65781684)

ANGLIA

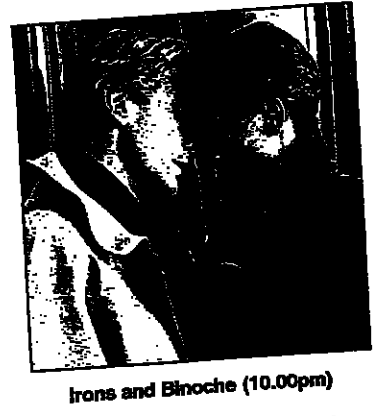
As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (7319077)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7717313)
6.25 Anglia News (424313)
6.55-7.00 What's On (363023)
10.35 Anglia News and Weather (158042)
10.50-11.20 Cover Story: Crime Special (676597)
11.20 Hunter (562226)
12.15am Alfred Hitchcock Presents (7211627)
4.35 The Time, the Place (45483443)

S4C

Starts: **6.00 Sesame Street** (73145)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (78503)
9.00 Bewitched (28481)
9.30 Ysgolion (271619)
12.00 House to House (11145)
12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (48787)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (71690)
1.30 FILM: The Day Will Dawn (76277936)
3.20 Fresh Pop (4559923)
3.30 Ricki Lake (684)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (619)
4.30 Howard Goodall's Organ Works (503)
5.00 5 Pump (3690)
5.30 Countdown (955)
6.00 Newyddion (113333)
6.05 Heno (427400)
6.35 Geir am Aur (309665)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (520481)
7.25 Pwy 'Di Pwy? (982058)
8.00 Pam Fi, Duw? (9874)
8.30 Newyddion (5481)
9.00 A55: Dim Troi Nol (7503)
10.00 Erotica (618684)
10.50 FILM: Jacknife (58642684)
12.45am Dispatches (8950004)
1.30 Evita: The Unquiet Grave (31646)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street 7.00 The Big Breakfast (78503) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (28481)
9.30 Schools (T) (271619)
12.00 House To House (11145) **12.30pm** Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (48787) **1.00** Cybill (r) (T) (24647503) **1.25** Begone Dull Care (15049690)
1.45 FILM: The Long Memory (1952, b/w) A thriller with John Mills, John McCallum and Elizabeth Sellars. Directed by Robert Hamer (94750023)
3.30 Collectors' Lot Costume jewellery (T) (684) **4.00** Fifteen-To-One (T) (619) **4.30** Countdown (T) (503) **5.00** Ricki Lake: Romantic Makeovers and Matches Made for Valentine's Day (T) (3690) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (955)
6.00 New Gamesmaster Computer and arcade games magazine presented by Dominik Diamond (T) (868)
6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap. Lucy's love life brings her still more heartbreak (T) (348)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (278752)
7.50 The People's Agenda General election issues (229400)
8.00 An Inspector Calls The work of two Bournemouth beach inspectors who encounter abuse and violence and deal with bag-snatchers (5/6) (r) (T) (9874)
8.30 TV Dinners Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall continues his trawl through the world of energetic amateur cooks and visits two more creative dinner parties (6/8) (5481)
9.00 CHOICE **Dispatches** The award-winning current affairs series looks at the effects of spending cuts on safety in the RAF (891058)
9.45 The Long Johns Sir George Parr, director of the Genghis Khan Institute, explains the virtues of the free market as applied to the drugs trade. With John Bird and John Fortune (T) (151961)



Irons and Binoche (10.00pm)

10.00 FILM: Damage (1992) With Jeremy Irons and Juliette Binoche. A politician's family life is shattered when he embarks on an affair with his son's girlfriend. Directed by Louis Malle (T) (73787023)
12.05am The Unpleasant World Of Penn and Teller Macabre magic with guest Stephen Fry (r) (T) (1539066)
12.35 Death of a Democrat A *Secret History* investigation into the death in 1948 of Jan Masaryk, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, two weeks after the Communists seized power. Tomas Kotik, a student tries to solve the mystery (r) (T) (8755849)
1.35 Nothing But the Truth Should a young man take responsibility for the baby born as a result of a one-night stand with a woman he hardly knows? (r) (8834608)
2.40 Nomads The Moors of Mauretania (1/4) (8318608)
3.40 Schools (T) (991066)
5.30 Backdate (r) (T) (40627)

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (581313) **9.00** Designing Women (73955) **9.30** Designing Women (99435) **10.00** Another World (19874) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (26110) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (89058) **1.00pm** Geraldo (98706) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (95706) **3.00** Jenny Jones (18042) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (34067) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4771) **6.00** Real TV (4023) **6.30** Married — with Children (1503) **7.00** The Simpsons (5400) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7787) **8.00** Just Kidding (4348) **8.30** The Nanny (3905) **9.00** Seinfeld (99961) **9.30** Mad About You (80787) **10.00** Chicago Hope (30752) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (10503) **12.00** LAPD (87172) **12.30am** The Lucy Show (48795) **1.00** Hit Mix (21581)

SKY 2

7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys (5730348) **8.00** Sliders (5643868) **9.00** Highlander (5729232) **10.00** Tek War (5739619) **11.00** Late Show (5098416) **12.00** Hit Mix (7557153)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Charrel PG (1969) (78394) **8.00 The First Man in the Moon (1964)** (86058) **10.00 Evil Under the Sun (1981)** (65969) **12.00 Bear Island (1980)** (96481) **2.00pm My Father, the Hero (1994)** (37232) **4.00 Grizzly Mountain (1993)** (2503) **6.00 Medicine River (1993)** (91794145) **7.40 US Top 10** (417058) **8.00 Before Sunrise (1995)** (46313) **10.00 Chasers (1994)** (977665) **11.40 Warlock: The Armageddon (1993)** (444787) **1.15am Betrayed (1988)** (35369288) **3.20 An Awfully Big Adventure (1994)** (55046882)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Mademoiselle Fifi (1944) (5830435) **7.15 Bugs Bunny Superstar (1975)** (767348) **8.45 Stowaways on the Ark** (7737435) **10.00 Shepherd on the Rock (1994)** (99481) **12.00 My Family Treasure (1993)** (94023) **2.00pm The Girl in Room 17 (1953)** (25874) **4.00 Bugs Bunny Superstar (1975)** (4495) **6.00 Death of a Cheerleader (1994)** (32110) **8.00 Free Willy II (1995)** (31139) **9.30 Movie Show** (65987) **10.00 Drop Zone (1994)** (804690) **11.50 Shadow Dancer (1995)** (368313) **1.25am Shattered Dreams (1990)** (644153) **3.00 Fighting for My Daughter: The Anne Dion Story (1994)** (413630) **4.35 The Girl in Room 17 (1953)** (90839988)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm My Favourite Blonde (1942) (8323394) **8.00 The Couch Trip (1988)** (8345139) **10.00 The Magnificent Seven (1960)** (44299145) **12.10am St Valentine's Day Massacre (1967)** (7641004) **1.50 Pat and Mike (1952)** (3115608) **3.25-5.25 Only Angels Have Wings (1939)** (9926337)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from **5am to 9pm**, then TNT films as follows: **9.00pm On the Town (1949)** (28742884) **11.00 Ivanhoe (1952)** (58874139) **12.50am The Safecracker (1958)** (55238424) **2.30-5.00 The Quare Fellow (1962)** (50947578)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.
6.00am Mouse Tracks (9198226) **6.25** Quack Attack (9273961) **6.50** Bonkers (3622874) **7.15** The Little Mermaid (8821058) **7.40** Aladdin (1835348) **8.05** Goof Troop (7951619) **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa (6132023) **8.40** The Care Bears (4588874) **9.10** Grounding Marsh (5919961) **9.40** Big Garage (4728481) **9.55** Lamb Chop's Play Along (4955706) **10.25** Muppet Babies (6859348) **10.50** Dumbo's Circus (8284085) **11.20** Mouse Tracks (9030058) **11.50** Under the Umbrella Tree (4941961) **12.20pm** Timon and Pumbaa (2373139) **12.35** The Little Mermaid (4898110) **1.00** Flipper (9539348) **1.45** Aladdin (67498890) **2.10** Darkwing Duck (77147936) **2.35** Bonkers (1055139) **3.00** Quack Attack (9812042) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (2789400) **3.35** Goof Troop (1047077) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (7987936) **4.10** Goof Troop (2788139) **4.35** Bonkers (9593481) **5.00** Aladdin (6440481) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (6002394) **5.35** Darkwing Duck (390481) **6.00** Bone Chillers (3706) **6.30** Boy Meets World (4058) **7.00** Dave's World (3226) **7.30 FILM: The Little Riders** (43874) **9.00** Tarzan (84077) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (36503)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (7591597) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (9007077) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (5916868) **7.30** Power Rangers (5091503) **8.00** Masked Rider (5776058) **8.30** Crocadoo (5775329) **9.00** Rimba's Island (1045936) **9.25** Zoobilee Zoo (4885752) **9.45** Why Why Family (1970481) **10.00** Pinocchio (9098329) **10.30** Billy the Cat (5682665) **11.00** Princess Starla (4195400) **11.30** Bumpety Boo (4276329) **12.00** Rimba's Island (89355684) **12.25pm** Zoobilee Zoo (91542706) **12.45** Why Why Family (49442329) **1.00** Pinocchio (6915139) **1.30** Billy the Cat (9047329) **2.00** Three Little Ghosts (5269058) **2.30** Inspector Gadget (3356961) **3.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (5179665) **3.30** Ace Ventura (3368706) **4.00** Casper (3274313) **4.30** Power Rangers (3270597) **5.00** Masked Rider (5170110) **5.30** Spiderman (3367077) **6.00** Goosebumps (3357690) **6.30-7.00** Sweet Valley High (3275042)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (56329) **7.30** Wrestling (91058) **8.30** Racing News (69329) **9.00** Football Special (426752) **11.30** Grass Roots Rugby (52400) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (63145) **12.30pm** Iron Woman (21067) **1.00** Live European Golf (680023) **4.00** Futbol Mundial (8058) **4.30** Netbusters (4042) **4.59** Sports Centre (6280706) **5.00** Wrestling (2145) **6.00** Sports Centre (19868) **7.00** Live Football (63665) **9.00** Sports Centre (44435) **9.30** Live Cricket (8278077) **4.30-5.00** Sports Centre (70578)

SKY SPORTS 2

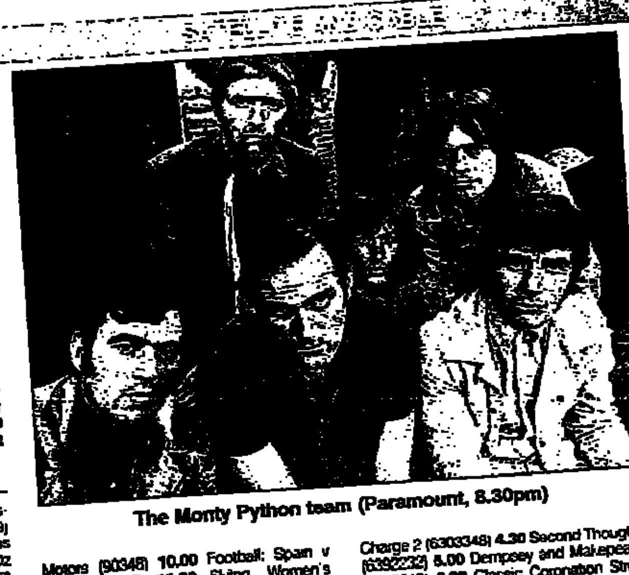
8.00pm Tight Lines (1404400) **9.00** European PGA Golf (1587787) **11.00** Bobby Charlton's Scrapbook (4804706) **12.30am-1.00** Rugby Hall of Fame (3147917)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Beach Volleyball (86342955) **1.00pm** Football Special (38551329) **3.30** Waterski Tour (21278110) **4.00** Grass Roots Rugby (21360145) **4.30** Inside the PGA Tour (21368329) **5.00** League Review (66875481) **6.00** Beach Volleyball (86348139) **7.00** Sports Centre (28839435) **8.00** Live Basketball (26745771) **10.00** League Review (28837706) **11.00-11.30** Inside the PGA Tour (65522348)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Dog-Sled Racing (53232) **8.00** Skiing: Men's Giant Slalom (27023) **9.00** Motors (90348) **10.00** Football: Spain v Malta (59416) **11.00** Skiing: Women's World Cup Downhill — Live (50049) **12.30pm** Cross-Country Skiing: Sapporo International (92145) **1.00** Snowboarding (77868) **1.30** Athletics: Ghent Indoor (16400) **2.30** Skiing: Women's ionship Downhill (69665) **3.30** Tennis: Dubai Open — Live (6132969) **7.00** Skiing: Women's Slalom — Live (54951) **9.00** Bobsleigh (832619) **11.30** Car on Ice (23503) **12.00-12.30am** Slam Magazine (27714)



The Monty Python team (Paramount, 8.30pm)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Krypton Factor (7776918) **6.30** Once Upon a Time (80949232) **6.45** Our Backyard (41611110) **7.00** Alphabet Zoo (7081394) **7.15** Once Upon a Time (4115058) **7.30** The Return of the Antelope (3032139) **8.00** Classic Coronation Street (2730955) **8.30** Families (2739226) **9.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (1471526) **10.00** Second Thoughts (8723226) **10.30** Two's Company (2815690) **11.00** Within These Walls (3114787) **12.00** Classic Coronation Street (2733042) **12.30pm** Families (4765495) **1.00** Albion Market (3118503) **1.30** The Krypton Factor (6115936) **2.00** Drummonds (8724955) **3.00** Chessgame (2248145) **4.00** The Doctor Series: In Charge 2 (6303348) **4.30** Second Thoughts (6392232) **5.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (3916313) **6.00** Classic Coronation Street (6217597) **6.30** Families (6304077) **7.00** The Doctor Series: In Charge 2 (3917042) **7.30** Two's Company (6393961) **8.00** Chessgame (1015684) **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (5891706) **9.35** The Good Life Guide (4202058) **10.00-11.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (1101435)
From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From **6.00am-9.00** TV High Street
From **9.00-12.00** Food and Wine
From **12.00-3.00pm** Health and Beauty
From **3.00-6.00** Home and Garden

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography. Buster Keaton (3915503) **5.00** History Alive (4751416) **6.00** The Boer War (3497077) **7.00-8.00** Biography. Mark Twain (1495752)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00am The Twilight Zone (6145066) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (2072998) **2.00** 100 Years of Horror (9365288) **2.30** Rod Serling's Night Gallery (9334795) **3.00-4.00** Friday the 13th (3282849)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am Joy of Painting (2132706) **9.30** Grow Your Own (4355941) **10.00** Surprise Chefs (7268503) **10.30** Our House (2121690) **11.00** Painted House (7250023) **11.30** This Old House (7251752) **12.00** Sweet Things (2049042) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (1208477) **1.00** Today's Gourmet (1682665) **1.30** Home Again (2658918) **2.00** Hometime (5962226) **2.30** Furniture to Go (2946058) **3.00** Two's Country (5047961) **3.30-4.00** This Old House
DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.
4.00pm Fishing Adventures II (2857110) **4.30** Bush Tucker Man (2853394) **5.00** Connections 2 (5059706) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (2940874) **6.00** Wild Things (6351526) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (5968042) **7.30** Mysterious Forces Beyond (2854023) **8.00** Professionals (6928905) **9.00** Top Marques II (7343787) **9.30** Disaster (7817343) **10.00** Medical Detectives (2040771) **10.30** Deadly Neighbourhoods (2139619) **11.00** Classic Wheels (1692042) **12.00** Weapons of the Gods (9963511) **1.00am** Roadshow (5681375) **1.30-2.00** World of Adventures

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellystack (7002058) **7.35** Neighbours (3676503) **8.00** Crossroads (9722416) **8.25** EastEnders (9386482) **9.00** The Bill (2038936) **9.30** Breakfast with the Boswells (3006459) **10.00** Never the Twain (7368961) **10.30** The Sullivans (2130348) **11.00** Juliet Bravo (1786435) **12.00** Crossroads (2041400) **12.30pm** Neighbours (9406495) **1.00** EastEnders (9105232) **1.35** No Place Like Home (5241023) **2.10** A Little Bit of Emery (61114752) **2.20** Three Up, Two Down (5722753) **3.00** Tellystack (5056619) **3.30** The Bill (2943961) **4.00** All Creatures Great and Small (7349961) **5.00** Bob's Full House (5487058) **5.40** Crossroads (6027481) **6.05** EastEnders (3381145) **6.40** Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game (61893961) **7.50** Are You Being Served? (6079665) **8.30** Russ Abbot (5963955) **9.00** The Bill (7345145) **9.30** The Equalizer (6093503) **10.30** Rowland Rivron Bites the Bullet (8392348) **11.05** Men Behaving Badly (9003435) **11.40** Alexei Sayle's Stuff (1099694) **12.15am** The Best of Top of the Pops (3473269) **1.00** Miami Vice (9154578) **1.50** Shopping (85677608)

TCC

6.00am Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (32348) **6.30** Ocean Odyssey (57139) **7.00** Escape from Jupiter (88597) **7.30** Flash Gordon (63232) **8.00** Batman (26684) **8.30** Dennis the Menace (25955) **9.00** Earthworm Jim (12435) **9.30** Bobby's World (52597) **10.00** Romuald the Reindeer (44619) **10.30** Inspector Gadget (18619) **11.00** Danger Mouse (77787) **11.30** Gravedale High (78415) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (29771) **12.30pm** Art Attack (56313) **1.00** Road to Avonlea (51868) **2.00** Ocean Odyssey (5684) **2.30** Escape from Jupiter (2023) **3.00** Batman (7619) **3.30** Flash Gordon (4868) **4.00** Earthworm Jim (9503) **4.30-5.00** Dennis the Menace (5787)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Turtles (87874) **6.30** Bikers Mice (43313) **7.00** Captain Simian (74771) **7.30** Tales from the Cryptkeeper (66706) **8.00** Bruno the Kid (88400) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (87771) **9.00** Rugrats (78023) **9.30** Rugrats (94503) **10.00** Aaahh! Real Monsters (34665) **10.30** Doug (70435) **11.00** Rocko (59313) **11.30** Bailey Kipper (50042) **12.00** Kenan and Kel (61787) **12.30pm** Alex Mack (21049) **1.00** Sister Sister (73042) **1.30** Moesha (97690) **2.00** The Ferals (7400) **2.30** Wishbone (5348) **3.00** Stickin' Around (9435) **3.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (4665) **4.00** Sister Sister (7023) **6.00** Press Gang (6077) **6.30-7.00** Harriet the Spy (7329)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Entertainment UK (1416) **7.30** Roseanne (3313) **8.00** Roseanne (4936) **8.30** Monty Pythons' Flying Circus (6771) **9.00** Cheers (42077) **9.30** Taxi (12955) **10.00** It's Garry Shandlings' Show (62416) **10.30** Frasier (75936) **11.00** The Doctor Is On (41394) **11.30** Monty Pythons' Flying Circus (36077) **12.00** The Critic (30288) **12.30am** Soap (84511) **1.00** Cheers (57627) **1.30** Taxi (96004) **2.00** Entertainment UK (18801) **2.30** The Doctor Is On (68068) **3.00** Frasier (60191) **3.30-4.00** It's Garry Shandlings' Show (28288)

BRAVO

6.00pm Robocop (6923351) **9.00** New Twilight Zone (7267313) **9.30** New Twilight Zone (7701067) **10.00** Tour of Duty (4229972) **11.00 FILM: Terror Train** (4722226) **1.00am** Robocop (4849022) **2.00** Tour of Duty (6901578) **3.00 FILM: Terror Train** (2912801) **5.00** New Twilight Zone (9976085) **5.30** New Twilight Zone

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (8106684) **9.00** Gladrags and Glamour (2219329) **9.10** Gabrielle (1514394) **10.05** Jerry Springer Uncut (3168481) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (5276868) **11.55** Brookside (64505619) **12.25pm** Call the Doctor (54097787) **12.55** Tempest (1153955) **1.40** The Gordon Elliott Show (9624042) **2.30** The Agony Experience (4401400) **3.00** Live at Three (64785400) **4.05** The Jerry Springer Show (7035905) **5.05** Lingo (6622859?) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (4585416) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (8890955) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (1891752) **7.05** Brookside (1968313) **7.40** Who's Sorry Now? (2377771) **8.05** Rolonda (4326232) **9.00 FILM: Cradle of Conspiracy** (8335752) **11.00-12.00** The Spicy Sex Files (6395603)

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Prize Time (6005481) **5.05** Blockbusters (1466348) **5.35** Prize Time (495400) **5.50** Spellbound (308400) **6.20** Prize Time (133477) **6.30** Catchphrase (298110) **6.55** Prize Time (817394) **7.05** Sale of the Century (438416) **7.30** Prize Time (830665) **7.40** Gives Us Clue (249619) **8.10** Prize Time (951732) **8.20** All Clued Up (381329) **8.50** Prize Time (633892) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (622874) **9.25** Prize Time (903771) **9.35** Busman's Holiday (517503) **10.00** Prize Time (633987) **10.05** Treasure Hun (995110) **11.05** Prize Time (930868) **11.2** Love at First Sight (857416) **11.45** Prize Time (824868) **12.00** Sale of the Centur (78482) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (47849) **1.3** Lou Grant (39240) **2.30** Snowy River — th McGregor Saga (11676) **3.30** All Togethe Now (86462) **4.00-5.00** Fall Guy (87375)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** News and Euronev **8.00** Gaane Anjaane **8.30** TBA **9.00** Has Tera Ghar Vasya **9.30** Euro Zindegi **10.** Saheel **11.00** Chakravyuh **11.30** Bane Apni Baat **12.00** Dastaan **12.30pm** W Janaab **1.00 FILM: Wafaa 4.00** ZEE T 10 **5.00** ZEE Zone **5.30** Vikram Aur Be **6.00** Yoodle Ae Oo **6.30** ZEE and You **7** Ten Bhi Chup Men Bhi Chup **7** Cinemagic **8.00** News and Euronews **8** Andaz **9.00** Jeal **9.30** Hasretain **10** Commander **10.30** Song Yaatra **11.00** Horror Show **11.30-12.00** Aap Ki Farm

MTV

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RUGBY UNION 46
Ashton adds the finishing touch to Ireland's plans

SPORT

SKIING 50
Tomba lets world title slip from his grasp

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13 1997

Zola seizes on moment of defensive uncertainty to bring Italy victory at Wembley

England left looking back in anger

England	0
Italy	1

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

AT LUNCH yesterday, the Prime Minister had entertained overseas guests with the notion that there is no better home for the World Cup in the year 2006 than England. In the evening, out in the driving wind and rain at Wembley Stadium, Italy defeated England with an opportunist goal from Gianfranco Zola that imperils English hopes of qualifying for the next World Cup on French soil in 1998.

It was so very typical, all haste and discordant effort from England, which was lost on an Italian side that had the greater technical control, that was always more sure of its purpose, and that accomplished without too much ado their country's seventh victory in ten meetings with England, Italy's fourth win in the past five encounters. They even stole England's proud record of being undefeated over 90 minutes for 29 internationals at Wembley.

Will England's followers never learn? There they were, singing in the rain for an hour before kick-off, and then they turned to the familiar shrill whistle of abuse for the Italian anthem. Quite apart from lost sportsmanship, it does nothing but provoke quality players to stick out their jaw, and to set about demonstrating their class.

Hoddle had attempted to deceive, to invite Italy to believe that his team had such healing powers that Gascoigne would perform. Gascoigne was not even fit enough to be one of seven substitutes warming the England bench.

Probing for unity and looking as disparate as strangers, England attempted to break down Italy's return to their defensive tradition of *catenaccio*. Surprisingly, because Cesare Maldini, the veteran coach, is also a deceiver, it was Costacurta, the 40-year-old Milan marker, who was entrusted with the role of *libero*. With the young, relatively untried Facio Cannavaro tight up against Shearer, with Ferrara ready to step forward and deny space to Le Tissier, the England hope that Italy would be lured out of shape by unfamiliar English attacking ideas was forlorn.

FRANCE 98

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	4	3	0	1	7	2	9
Italy	3	3	0	0	5	1	9
Poland	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Georgia	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
Moldova	3	0	0	3	2	8	0

RESULTS: Moldova 0 England 3. Moldova 1 Italy 3. England 2 Poland 1. Italy 1 Georgia 0. Georgia 0 England 2. Poland 2 Moldova 1. England 0 Italy 1.

True, thanks to Beckham, so lively on the right, and to McManaman's thirst for endeavour, England enjoyed an early territorial advantage. Almost inevitably, Zola, the happy Chelsea wanderer, drew some Italian respite. How elegant was his control of the ball, how swift his low shot that deflected wide of an upright off Pearce. Before Zola made a more telling contribution, Le Tissier was to show his own languid art. He had crossed over with McManaman, was lurking on the right edge of the penalty box, and when the ball came to him, he needed one touch to master it, one sweep to project it goalwards. Ferrara is accustomed to such technique; he repels it every Sunday in *Serie A*, and now he blocked Le Tissier's intended shot.

Then came Zola. Costacurta may not be a seasoned *libero*, but he knows the function. Reading the open play in front of him, advancing to the halfway line, he suddenly unleashed a long through-ball, as if out of a catapult. Zola was ready, but Pearce was not.

Father Time, perhaps, tapped the 34-year-old Nottingham Forest defender on the shoulder, for he seemed inert and bemused. What was he doing, this man of 73 international caps, standing three yards upfield of a dangerous opponent? When Pearce awoke to that danger, Zola had scampered behind him and, as Campbell came lunging desperately across, Zola squeezed his shot between Walker and the near post.

Blame, in the first instance, the ball-watching of Pearce who, as a manager, would probably drop himself for indolence. Blame, if you must, Campbell for not realising the error of his compatriot sooner. And share that blame with Ian Walker, the inexperienced Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper, who, despite a worrying season for him and his club, was somehow elevated in Hoddle's mind ahead of Nigel Martyn and Tim Flowers, both of whom should have had higher claim in the absence of Seaman, through a knee injury.

Three times Zola baffled England, not least with a cunning volley that Walker saved with a punch. Somehow Carlo Ancelloti, the Parma coach, decided that this is a physical era, and Zola runs too close to the ground. England will delight in his skills, even if, in that eighteenthminute, he depressed the nation. When England recovered a semblance of rhythm, an edge of competition, it was Batty and Beckham, again, who stimulated it. It was close to half-time when Beckham attempted a 30-yard free-kick, which was no trouble at all for Peruzzi. However, the goalkeeper was less convincing moments later when Batty floated the ball in from the left, Peruzzi came and stopped in no man's land, and Le Tissier produced a header that bounced a tormenting foot wide.

The hour approached. England, given only glimmers of hope with speculative shots wide from Batty and Le Saux, abandoned their experimental forward approach, going back to aerial basics with Ferdinand replacing Le Tissier.

Yet, though the blue shirts were in apparent retreat, it was only to what they know and love best, consolidating their lead, drawing England's sting, holding and containing them. McManaman did momentarily break threateningly on the left. He made perhaps 15 yards before Baggio blocked him and came away with the ball. Professional to the nth degree, Italy had allowed Albertini to wear himself down running with McManaman in the first half; now it was Baggio.

But hope rose again, as England are nothing if not champions of spirit. In the 72nd minute, Le Saux, a man who has retrieved his career from a horrendous ankle injury, struck a clever free kick menacingly beneath the cross bar. Peruzzi was equal to it again.

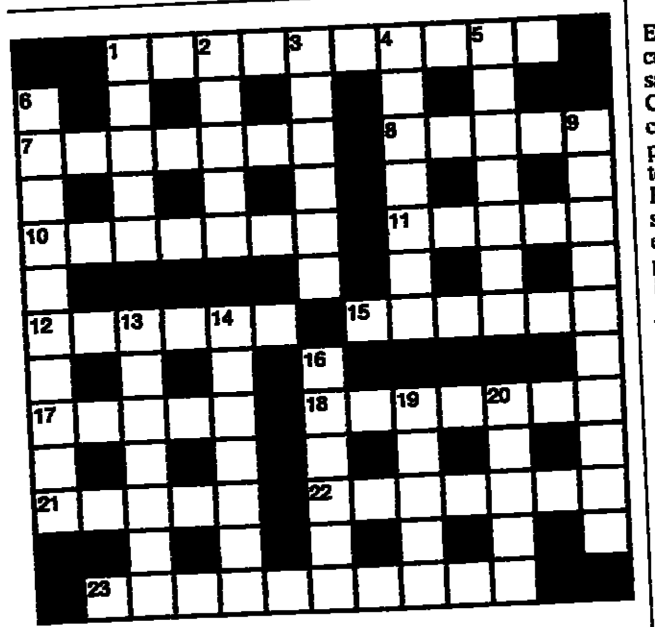
ENGLAND (3-4-2-1): I Walker (Tottenham Hotspur) — G Neville (Manchester United), S Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest) — D Beckham (Manchester United), P Ince (Internazionale), D Batty (Newcastle United; sub: I Wright, Arsenal, 88min), G Le Saux (Blackburn Rovers) — S McManaman (Liverpool; sub P Merson, Arsenal, 78min), M Le Tissier (Southampton; sub L Ferdinand, Newcastle United, 60) — A Shearer (Newcastle United)
ITALY (3-5-2): A Peruzzi (Juventus) — C Ferrara (Juventus), A Costacurta (Milan), F Cannavaro (Parma) — A Di Livio (Juventus), D Baggio (Parma), D Albertini (Milan), R Di Matteo (Chelsea), P Maldini (Milan) — G Zola (Chelsea; sub D Fuser, Lazio, 90), P Casiraghi (Lazio; sub F Ravanelli, Middlesbrough, 76).
Referee: S Puhl (Hungary)

MARC ASPLAND

Campbell's despairing lunge can only deflect Zola's shot beyond Walker, giving Italy victory in the World Cup qualifying match last night

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1016 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS
1 Fail to progress (3.7)
7 Batsman's go (7)
8 Fruit: a disappointment (5)
10 Regal rod (7)
11 Threaded fastener (5)
12 Curly salad plant (6)
15 Humble (oneself) (6)
17 Fire-raising (5)
18 Arthur's, JFK's, court (7)
21 Eagle's nest (5)
22 Scandalous event (7)
23 Five-event athletic contest (10)

DOWN
1 Wish-granting spirit (5)
2 Item of doctrine (5)
3 R-month-edible creature (6)
4 Bishopric of Rome (4.3)
5 Regret for wrong (7)
6 *Taming of Shrew* musical (4.2.4)
9 From time to time (3.3.4)
13 Merit, earn (7)
14 — Van Gogh (7)
16 Approach (to confront) (6)
19 Substance as eg gold, iron (5)
20 Acquire knowledge (5)

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SOLUTION TO NO 1015
ACROSS: 1 Pot-shot 5 Mend 9 Fever 10 Pas seul 11 Praiseworthy 12 Sparse 13 Ribald 16 Once in a while 19 Pelican 20 Elgar 21 Dunk 22 Satisfy
DOWN: 1 Puff 2 Taverna 3 Herd instinct 4 Tappet 6 Exert 7 Delayed 8 Astonishment 12 Stooped 14 Alleges 15 Cannes 17 Colon 18 Grey

Major launches World Cup bid

By John Goodbody

ENGLAND'S bid to stage the 2006 World Cup was officially launched by John Major yesterday, although no official of Uefa, football's European governing body, was present at the reception at 10 Downing Street.

A host of English football luminaries joined representatives of Fifa, the game's world governing body, and the international media as the Prime Minister hailed the success of the European championship as evidence that the country is capable of staging the 32-nation tournament.

A Downing Street spokesman declined to comment on the absence of Uefa officials, who had not felt obliged to travel to London for the reception. However, Mr Major said: "There is a great will in the United Kingdom to have the prize of staging the World Cup. I believe it will be magnificently done and our facilities will be the equal of any in the world by then. There is no doubt about the desire of the British public to support the competition here."

Keith Wiseman, the chairman of the Football Association, described the recent dispute with Uefa as a "local difficulty". It was the invitation to Uefa officials to attend the reception, which also celebrated the success of Euro 96, that had sparked off the controversy over England's World Cup bid.

Two weeks ago, the Uefa executive committee reminded England that it had already endorsed Germany's candidature at meetings in 1993, 1994 and 1995. The FA then persuaded Uefa officials to come to London last Friday for talks, during which they were persuaded to withdraw their unequivocal support for Germany.

Instead, an elimination process will be set up to endorse the Continent's choice. Gerhard Aigner, the general secretary of Uefa, who is German, said that a compromise plan for England and Germany to co-host the tournament had not been ruled out."I come from a country where compromises are always sought ... we will have to wait and see how it goes," he said.

It is by no means certain that any European country will stage the 2006 tournament, particularly since candidates have at least two years to apply before the vote is held in June 2000.

With France due to hold the 1995 World Cup, the 2006 tournament might go to Latin America, which has not staged the event since 1986, in Mexico, or Africa, which never has.

Among the famous England players of the past at the reception yesterday were Sir Stanley Matthews, Sir Bobby Charlton, Tom Finney, Nat Lofthouse, Geoff Hurst and Gary Lineker.

Sir Stanley said: "It would be lovely to have the tournament back after a 40-year break because we now have football fever in this country again."

Finney said: "I think we deserve to be heard. It would have been a long time since 1966 and football in this country has changed a lot in the last five or six years. We should be recognised for the improvements we have achieved."

Olazábal plans March return

By Mel Webb

A LONG and painful absence from golf appears to be nearing its end for José María Olazábal, the former Masters champion. Conventional methods of treatment to his severely arthritic feet having been tried and found wanting, he turned to a cure offered by a German consultant and is now on the brink of a return to tournament play.

The specialist, who treats the Bayern Munich football team and other leading sportsmen, recommended a course of treatment, an important part of which involved Olazábal walking barefoot for two miles a day in the surf near his home in Basque country in northeast Spain. The result is that he is likely to make his comeback in the Portuguese Open next month. It is a sea change from the situation a year ago, when there was even a possibility that Olazábal might never play professionally again.

"Physically, he is perfect," Sergio Gomez, his manager, said. "He is playing 18 holes a day, but he is still looking for perfection before he formally announces his return. I want him to come back in top form."

Olazábal: regained fitness

Olazábal, 31, is expected to play in the Portuguese Open, which starts at Aroeira, near Lisbon, on March 13. The week after, he hopes to appear in the Turespaña Masters at Maspalomas in Gran Canaria.

Then he will have a short break before flying to New Orleans for the Freeport McDermott Classic a week before his first real challenge, the Masters, which he won in 1994.

Olazábal's compatriot, Severiano Ballesteros, makes his first appearance of the season today in the Dimension Data Pro-am in Sun City, part of which will be contested on a course that is close to the great Spaniard's heart.

Three of the four rounds of the tournament are to be played at the Gary Player Country Club, where Ballesteros won the Million Dollar Challenge in 1984. Nick Price, Ian Woosnam and the in-form Mark McNulty, all past winners at Sun City, are also in the field.

Woosnam, who has made an encouraging start to the season, would have been in contention in the South African Open last week but for a 75 in the second round. He finished joint seventh.

Greg Norman, the world No 1, will be joining Colin Montgomerie, the defending champion, in the Dubai Desert Classic at the Emirates Club later this month. Woosnam, Ballesteros, Bernhard Langer and Costantino Rocca are also appearing.

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NO CONTEST

Peace and harmony (almost) on the economic front

Yesterday's quarterly Inflation Report issued by the Bank of England makes it clear that the difference of opinion over interest rates between the Bank and the Chancellor is a marginal matter. Expectations of a sharp rise in interest rates straight after the election are almost certainly misplaced. As Howard Davies, the Bank's Deputy Governor said in a speech on Tuesday night, the gap between the two sides' judgments on interest rates amounts to just one quarter of a percentage point.

The Bank's surprisingly moderate report also weakens the case of those who attack Mr Clarke for acting in an irresponsibly "political" manner by refusing to raise interest rates before the election. Whatever one may think about Mr Clarke's true motivations, the facts suggest that he has strong economic justifications for his caution about raising interest rates any further.

The Inflation Report makes clear that the reasons for the disagreement between the Bank and the Chancellor are slight and that both sides' positions can be backed up by genuine economic evidence and analysis. The pound is becoming dangerously strong; manufacturing and exports are not sharing in the recovery in consumer spending; and this recovery itself shows no signs of turning into a overheated boom.

Even the sharp decline in unemployment, a welcome trend which continued with yesterday's January figures, may not be as rapid as the figures suggest because of the introduction of the new Jobseekers' Allowance which has taken tens of thousands of people off the register. All of these factors support the Chancellor's decision to keep monetary policy on hold until there is more evidence about the underlying strength of consumer demand, the housing market and the European economy, as well as the durability of the market's enthusiasm for sterling.

The Bank, for its part, puts more stress on the rapid growth of the money supply, the high level of consumer confidence, the possible effects of building society windfalls and the tentative fears of higher wage settlements, although there is little evidence to back this last concern. The Bank's emphasis is entirely understandable. Its mandate requires it to focus exclusively on the danger of inflation, rather than taking a fully balanced view about the medium-term prospects for economic growth, employment and exports.

In fact, a slightly more hawkish stance on interest rates than the one taken by Mr Clarke might have been appropriate, even on a broader view of the national interest than the one taken by the Bank. It can certainly be argued that the risks in the coming year are skewed more towards an unhealthy boom than a dangerous economic slowdown. More importantly, it will be easier, and more popular, for the next government to take countervailing action against a surprising economic slowdown than against an unexpected outbreak of inflationary fever.

To this limited extent Mr Clarke can be accused of allowing politics to colour his economic judgment. His decision not to raise interest rates now certainly makes it more likely that an incoming Labour government will have to raise interest rates or taxes, or both, shortly after the election. It is almost inconceivable that the next Chancellor's first act in office will be to announce a cut in mortgage rates.

Yet even the Bank believes that the tightening of monetary policy that will be needed straight after the election is likely to be "moderate", perhaps just a quarter of a point and probably no more than a half. There seems no imminent prospect of a return to Britain's familiar boom-bust cycle. There is less danger than a few months ago of a big overshooting by sterling and little chance of a sharp rise in interest rates. On balance, the country (and the Labour Party) should be grateful — both for the Bank's vigilance on inflation and for the generally sensible economic judgment of Mr Clarke.

GREEN AT THE EDGES

American foreign policy falls prey to interest groups — again

The US connection has long been a matter of controversy in Ulster politics. Although sometimes unappreciated in Britain, this involvement, when deployed with care and caution, has often been constructive. The judicial chairmanship of former Senator George Mitchell over the Stormont talks is a case in point. That participation has always, however, been threatened by the actions of those who could in no sense be considered honest brokers. The combination of Nancy Soderberg at the National Security Council and Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith at the US Embassy in Dublin has been the chief cause of such distress.

The evident desire of Madeleine Albright, incoming US Secretary of State, to relocate policy as far as possible within her department, is essential to restoring a greater sense of balance and hence a broader scope of influence. Her willingness to meet the Ulster Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, next week — as her predecessor never did — to discuss these matters further was entirely sensible. It seems now that reports in Britain noting the vulnerable position of Ambassador Smith have caused that meeting to be postponed in pique. This outcome reflects poorly both on Mrs Albright's political judgment and on the prospects for a fresh American approach to Northern Ireland.

The US Administration has been engaged in a painful process of reassessment of Ulster. President Clinton invested a great deal of personal political capital in the peace process and was persuaded that this required a particularly intense courtship of Sinn Fein and Gerry Adams. That confidence was severely shaken by the resumption of IRA violence, especially when it emerged that the preparation for this outrage had been conducted just as the President made his pleas for reconciliation from Belfast City Hall.

The White House seemed to recognise the source of its embarrassment. Dubious advice had entered the Oval Office from Anthony Lake, his National Security Adviser, which Mr Clinton chose to grant favour over counsel from the State Department. Much of that analysis came through Ambassador Smith, whose enthusiasm for Gerry Adams knew few bounds. Whatever limited hopes Unionists might have had were shaken by her continual adoption of republican symbolism: her role as an extra in the film *Michael Collins* was only the most crass example of this.

Washington needs to move much closer to the stance taken by London and Dublin if it is to have any positive part in the post-Docklands peace process. This in turn requires the State Department consolidating its hold on the policy.

Yet not only has Mrs Albright mounted a defence of Ambassador Smith this week, which is her right, but the prospective deliberations with Sir Patrick Mayhew have been dropped from consideration. Whether this reflects the continued grip of the Kennedy clan over Mr Clinton or the influence of republican sympathisers in Congress on American diplomats can only be a matter of speculation.

Whatever the reason, it again looks as if American foreign policy is merely the outcome of a trial of strength among assorted interest groups. If so, the Unionists can hardly be expected to trust the United States. Without such faith there is little purpose in any Washington department attempting to exercise influence on Ulster's future.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FATWA

Britain must now take the lead against Tehran

Tomorrow is the eighth anniversary of the *fatwa* against Salman Rushdie, and the news from Tehran is grim. One of the most powerful members of the Iranian clergy, Ayatollah Sanei, has declared that the *fatwa* still stands and that the bounty on his head will be increased, at least temporarily, to $2.5 million, in order to incite "Muslim or non-Muslim, including Rushdie's bodyguards" to assassinate the author of *The Satanic Verses*.

After five years of "critical dialogue" with Tehran, it is time to accept that the *fatwa* is unlikely ever to be revoked as long as Iran remains a theocracy dominated by fundamentalist imams. There is no sign from that quarter of the compassion and mercy which are such central concepts of Islam. Ayatollah Sanei is head of the 15 Khordad Foundation, an influential Islamic organisation connected to senior figures in the Iranian regime. President Rafsanjani's claim that the Ayatollah and his foundation are no more than private bodies is mere sophistry.

If Mr Rafsanjani wishes to disown the *fatwa*, he has only to say so, publicly and unambiguously, and to supply the written guarantee of Mr Rushdie's safety which Britain has sought for the past eight years. But the Iranian President, who is anyway expected to lose office in the elections next July, has offered only weasel words. Ayatollah Sanei also warned other presidential candidates not to distance themselves from the *fatwa* against Mr Rushdie. It seems unlikely that any likely leader will dare to challenge the late Ayatollah Khomeini's cruel anathema.

The Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, has two choices: to support the American policy of sanctions against Iran, or to align Britain with those European partners, notably Germany, which have argued that tough measures would only strengthen the hardliners in Tehran. The bankruptcy of "critical dialogue" means that the option of appeasing Tehran by continuing normal trade and diplomacy while the *fatwa* still stands should now be ruled out.

Sanctions should never be imposed lightly, but the case for solidarity with Washington against state-sponsored Iranian terrorism is now very strong. When the new American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, visits London next week, it would be a welcome gesture for Mr Rifkind to announce that selective sanctions against Iran were being actively considered. Europe is no longer pursuing a credible policy on the Rushdie affair. Nor is it likely to do so unless Britain offers to take a lead.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Debate on PR and 'the popular will'

From Mrs Diana Maddock, MP for Christchurch (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, Contrary to your leading article's suggestion (February 10), the Liberal-Democrats are not disappointed by the Labour Party's policy on proportional representation, since the joint constitutional talks between us are broad discussions seeking merely to see if there is common ground between two parties who maintain distinct identities in this as in other areas.

Moreover, you have turned the purpose of PR on its head when you claim that it "takes the choice of government out of the hands of the people". Surely the whole case for electoral reform rests on the fact that under the first-past-the-post system British governments are consistently voted into comfortable majorities on the back of approximately 40 per cent of the national vote?

In fact, the electorate will be able to take a far more hands-on approach to national politics when we are eventually able to elect a government which at least represents the majority view. The only people currently thwarting "the popular will" are the current administration whose shaky mandate to govern ran out long ago.

Yours sincerely,
DIANA MADDOCK,
House of Commons.
February 10.

From Mr Richard Burden, MP for Birmingham, Northfield (Labour)

Sir, *The Times* leader's forthright opposition to any change in the voting system is shortsighted.

Outside Westminster, I find people are deeply uneasy about the ritual parliamentary jousting matches they see on their TV screens, about sensationalised press reporting and about the narrowness of political debate which all this produces. I find people — particularly young people — are looking for a new kind of politics as well as a change of government. This is why I also find there is growing enthusiasm for Labour's constitutional reform plans — including a referendum on the way MPs are elected.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BURDEN
(Chair, Labour Campaign
for Electoral Reform),
House of Commons.
February 10.

From Mr Chris Lowry

Sir, Your leading article refers to the "weakness of the case for proportional representation" and cites the example of New Zealand where "the popular will was thwarted" as a result of PR.

Opponents of PR more often speak of "strong government" in defence of the first-past-the-post system though, oddly, this argument has been used less frequently since the last election. It is true that very strong forms of government — strong enough to provide full employment and build powerful armies — can be sustained by dispensing with the messy business of democracy altogether.

But if fairness is the consideration, then surely only PR is acceptable. That Tony Blair appears "unpersuaded" of the case for reform merely exposes his cynicism: only the current system could give his party absolute sovereignty.

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS LOWRY,
21 Philipsburgh Avenue, Dublin 3.
February 10.

Hindley's remorse

From Mr Stanley Best

Sir, Although we must still recoil with horror from the deeds of Myra Hindley, surely it is not, as Mrs Deborah Stevens suggests (letter, February 7), whether Myra Hindley's "realisation of the enormity of her crime would preclude her ever considering herself worthy of release", but whether society in the person of the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, is entitled to preclude her case from consideration by the Parole Board from time to time, a right enjoyed by all prisoners.

We should not, as Michael Howard has done, prejudge the issue. Vengeance must not be allowed to replace justice in this country, however strongly we feel.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY BEST,
Glebe Cottage,
Broadwoodkelly, Winkleigh, Devon.
February 9.

Highly popular

From Mr Bob Clough-Parker

Sir, In the entertaining Diary item about the arrangements for Jessica Mitford's memorial service (February 8) it is stated that "invitations are being sent to 600 close friends". Admittedly the Mitford sisters were eccentrically gregarious, but I find this figure somewhat high.

I've got 13 close friends — and even so, five of them would not want to admit to being so.

Yours faithfully,
BOB CLOUGH-PARKER,
85 Tarvin Road, Boughton, Chester.

Business letters, page 31

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Not so happy with Church clappies

From the Chaplain of Balliol College, Oxford

Sir, No one should be surprised that a host of senior churchmen stood ready to criticise Lord Runcie for suggesting that "happy-clappy" services may not hasten the arrival of the Kingdom (report, February 10). The real problem is not in what they are willing to allow but with what they will not allow (or at least not encourage).

It would be an answer to prayer if some of the bishops who truly value the Church of England as a liberal institution and a broad Church expressed concern for the not insignificant number of faithful and thoughtful lay men and women who feel themselves disenfranchised in the parish by the almost complete abandonment by the clergy of the Book of Common Prayer.

They yet number in thousands and carry in the heart and imagination a great sense of sadness for the loss of something truly beautiful and substantial. I count myself as one of them.

Yours sincerely,
H. D. DUPREE,
Chaplain,
Balliol College, Oxford.
February 10.

From Mr John Ewington

Sir, Lord Runcie's remarks were timely and full of wisdom.

One of the greatest mistakes made by the Church was the decision by the Synod's trendy, so-called liturgical scholars in the Sixties to bring out modern vernacular liturgies which were going to fill our churches with young people who, apparently, did not understand the archaic language and dated theology of the Book of Common Prayer.

Much of the trouble stems from our theological colleges, where, against all the rules, the Book of Common Prayer is scarcely, if ever, used as a vehicle for worship. Thus deprived, the preachers cannot possibly be teachers and so the faith is watered down.

As the Venerable George Austin said at a recent Anglo-Catholic festival in Cornwall: "If you water down the faith, then the people will go over the road to the pub, where they are not allowed to water anything down." In many cases that is exactly where the people have gone.

I, for one, hope that for the millennium, our Church will bring back the Book of Common Prayer as *the* source book for the main service of the day on Sundays. Let all these experimental liturgies be used on weekdays or for special services and let us restore to our services a little of the dignity and mystery which used to surround our worship. Then we shall see the younger members, together with those who have felt alienated from the church that they loved and in whose bosom they were nurtured, return to the fold.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN EWINGTON
(General Secretary,
Guild of Church Musicians),
Hillbrow, Godstone Road,
Blechingley, Surrey.
February 9.

From Mrs M. Clulow

Sir, You report today that some clergy believe Lord Runcie to be "out of touch with popular views" — pity help us if popularity has become the arbiter of what is right.

It seems to have been unnoticed that Lord Runcie was not saying that there should have been no change — only that it has gone too far. He's right.

Well said Lord Runcie!

Yours sincerely,
M. CLULOW,
99 St Andrews Road,
Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside.
February 10.

Paying for legal aid

From the President of the Law Society

Sir, You report (February 5) on proposals by the Legal Aid Board for lawyers to foot the bill in unsuccessful legal aid cases. The board fails to make it clear that lawyers already receive lower fees in losing cases. It is now seeking to blame lawyers for its own failure to manage the legal aid scheme properly. It is the Legal Aid Board which decides which cases should be funded, not the lawyers involved. It needs to put its own house in order.

The Law Society made proposals two years ago to control very expensive cases and to weed out unmeritorious cases. We put forward a number of other proposals to improve value for money in legal aid. These constructive proposals were intended to tackle the real problems of the scheme so that legal aid could be both more affordable and more widely available, but the Government's White Paper, published last summer, missed the opportunity to improve the scheme in that way.

Since the publication of the White Paper we have seen a flurry of headlines canvassing ill-thought-out ideas to control legal aid in panic response to individual cases. It is high time the Legal Aid Board and the Lord Chancellor worked together with consumer groups and the Law Society to improve the way legal aid operates, rather than indulging in crude lawyer-bashing.

Yours faithfully,
TONY GIRLING,
President, The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.
February 5.

Holocaust denial

From the Dean of Merton College, Oxford

Sir, It was probably right to make denial of Nazi mass murder a criminal offence in Germany (letters, February 5 and 11). The German Basic Law of 1949 guaranteed freedom of faith and opinion, of speech and the press, but with the proviso that those who misuse their freedom to undermine free democratic order must lose that freedom.

Hitler had boasted: "I have destroyed the democrats with their own folly." That was not to happen again. Hence the prohibition of the Communist Party as unconstitutional in 1956, and a continued willingness to legislate against Nazi revivalism.

It is not right for Britain today. These denials are detestable, as was the behaviour of the British fellow-travellers who in Stalin's time denied his purges, and of those who later waved Mao's little red book while he was encompassing the deaths of millions of his countrymen. But as long as such behaviour presents no serious danger to this country, with its long and happy history of slowly broadening freedom, it deserves only contempt, not the intervention of the law.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS BRAUN
(Dean and Tutor
in Ancient History),
Merton College, Oxford.
February 11.

Burrell bequest

From Major F. N. L. Chapman

Sir, If, as suggested by the Director of Glasgow's museums and art galleries in his letter of February 6 [see also letters, February 8 and 10], one can speculate upon what Sir William Burrell would have wanted to happen to his collection in changing circumstances, and then decide upon the basis of that speculation to do something quite contrary to the donor's written wishes, then the consequence can only be to deter future philanthropists from leaving anything to museums.

As it is, many bequests lie unseen by the public in museum storerooms; most of the second finest collection of Kakiemon porcelain I know is not on public view, yet it is in a museum. There is an abundance of treasures in our museums and it may well be better for future donors to ensure in their wills that those things they wish to be preserved and seen and loved be sold by public auction and the money raised be given to help the poor and needy.

By so doing they will achieve a double good, first by the widespread dispersal of their possessions amongst people who can afford them and look after them properly, and secondly by doing a great social good.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK L. CHAPMAN,
The Old Surgery, Gloucester Street,
Painswick, Gloucestershire.
February 7.

Gibraltar precedent

From Sir Roger du Boulay

Sir, I entirely agree with Mr Andrew Stuart (letter, February 1) that a constitutional condominium is exponentially more inefficient than a single authority. However, I must take issue with his assertion that the only thing the British and French could agree on, when jointly governing the New Hebrides in the 1970s, was which side of the road to drive on.

That may have been true in his day (1978-80): my own experience was that the French could be persuaded to agree with us (and on occasion we with them), provided both sides tried hard enough, on the ground and back in Paris and London.

Most significantly, the French agreed with us that the time had come to accede to the local popular demands for independence and dismantle the absurdities of the condominium. They thought more in terms of managing (rather than manipulating or ignoring) the demand — our policy was to accede to it. French reservations about timing and method, and maybe even the shape of the ultimate product, were foreseeable. It is a pity that more effective account was not taken of them in the run-up to independence.

As you point out in your leading article of February 3, in Gibraltar there is no popular demand for independence, quite the contrary. Our belief in the right of people to choose for themselves is as fundamental and cherished as the Spanish belief in their sovereignty over Gibraltar and any agreement hammered out by diplomats or politicians in such circumstances would be riddled with reservations.

That does not excuse us from trying. But the lesson from the past is to retain a high degree of scepticism.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER du BOULAY
(British Resident Commissioner,
New Hebrides, 1973-75),
Anstey House,
Nr Buntingford, Hertfordshire.
February 3.

Data on prostate cancer screening

From Professor Sir Miles Irving

Sir, There will be few doctors in the United Kingdom who are not aware of the recent moves towards provision of evidence-based medical practice, in which advice to patients on their management is based upon thorough, critical analysis of the existing scientific data about their condition.

Such an analysis was the basis of the NHS Health Technology Programme advice on prostate cancer (report, February 7), which was based on two independently undertaken systematic reviews of the evidence. The two reviews reached a remarkable degree of agreement about the futility of screening for prostate cancer in our present state of knowledge, and the absence of any evidence of benefit from either radical prostatectomy or radiotherapy over a policy of watchful waiting. Such conclusions matched those of similar reports from the USA, Canada and Europe.

It was therefore disappointing that the Cancer Research Campaign should react by immediately contradicting some of the findings by quoting from a fact sheet issued in 1994, which has not been updated. Such statements can only cause confusion amongst men concerned about prostate cancer and wanting the best possible advice.

Men are entitled to ask the CRC on what evidence their statement is made and they can contrast it with the information provided in the two bulletins on the topic, one for doctors and one for patients, distributed to all general practitioners in the United Kingdom by the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination. These summarise the findings of our commissioned reviews based upon an exacting and up-to-date analysis of all published evidence, copies of which can be purchased.

Yours sincerely,
MILES IRVING,
Professor of Surgery,
The University of Manchester,
Department of Surgery,
Clinical Sciences Building,
Hope Hospital,
Salford, Greater Manchester.
February 7.

NHS waiting lists

From Mr C. B. T. Adams, FRCS

Sir, For 22 years I had no appreciable waiting list. Three years ago the local health authority purchasers told the consultants of the neurosurgery department to create a six-month waiting list for those patients with (often very severe) sciatic pain. The hospital business manager told us to do the same because, if we had no waiting list, we would have no stick to beat the purchasers with. Recently the Berkshire purchasers have told us six months is too short a wait for these patients.

We have repeatedly suggested that the purchasers and GPs inform the public of their decision, but they always refuse, leaving us to cope with frustrated patients and GPs.

May I suggest a new government makes it an obligation for purchasers to publish these edicts that affect provision of health services, including waiting lists. This would make the purchasers accountable to the public, which they are not at the moment. Secondly it would cost nothing.

Yours sincerely,
C. B. T. ADAMS
(Consultant Neurosurgeon),
Radcliffe Infirmary NHS Trust,
Woodstock Road, Oxford.

Election promises

From Dr A. W. F. Edwards

Sir, "The danger is that the attitude struck by the politicians to win votes will be carried over into government" according to Mr Michael Strauss and other members of the EU Economic and Social Committee, Brussels (letter, February 10).

Dangerous idea indeed, democracy.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. F. EDWARDS,
Nickersons, High Street,
Barton, Cambridge.
February 10.

Discorde?

From Mr Charles Hill

Sir, I spent more time trying (unsuccessfully) to telephone BA's £10 Concorde offer line than the flight would have taken to get to New York.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES HILL,
Stable House,
Tabbits Hill, Corfe Castle, Dorset.
February 12.

All the trimmings

From Mr Matthew Charles Lee

Sir, I was shocked to discover that, according to the Director-General of the Prison Service, the cost of a British police cell for one night is up to £300 (report, February 11). Does this include morning coffee and a complimentary copy of *The Times*? That really would make it seem considerably better value.

Yours,
MATT LEE,
221 Taft Hall, University of Illinois,
Champaign, Illinois 61820.

هكذا من الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 12: Mr Christopher Meyer was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Lord Clydesmuir was received by The Queen and delivered up the Insignia of the Order of the Thistle worn by his father, the late Lord Clydesmuir.

His Excellency Dato Kassim Daud and Datin Latifah Yaakub were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for Brunei Darussalam in London.

The Queen held a Council at 12.40 p.m.

There were present: The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President), the Earl Ferrers (Minister of State, Department of the Environment), the Rt Hon Ian Lang MP (Secretary of State for Trade and Industry) and the Rt Hon David Maclean MP (Minister of State, Home Office).

Lord Cullen, Mr David Davis MP, Mr Eric Forth MP, Mr Michael Jack MP, Sir Liam McCollum, the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy and Miss Ann Widdecombe MP were sworn in as Members of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Nigel Nicholls was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President and Honorary Life Fellow, Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, this afternoon held a President's Forum at Buckingham Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 12: The Duke of York this morning visited the Montserrat Volcano Observatory.

His Royal Highness later visited Salem Primary School.

The Duke of York today attended a Reception given by the Chief Minister (Mr Bertrand Osborne) for non-governmental organisations and the Council of Christian Churches at the Vue Pointe Hotel, Old Towne.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited Montserrat Secondary School, Salem Campus.

The Duke of York afterwards visited the Salem Catholic Church Shelter.

His Royal Highness later visited Salem Park and conferred the title Royal upon the Montserrat Defence Force.

The Duke of York this evening attended a Reception at Government House for the Royal Montserrat Defence Force, the Royal Montserrat Police Force and other organisations involved in disaster relief.

His Royal Highness later attended a Dinner given by His Excellency the Governor at Vue Pointe Hotel, Old Towne.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 12: The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, this morning opened Barnet Carers Centre, 1 Castle Mews, Castle Road, and attended a Reception at Torrington Park Health Centre, 16 Torrington Park, North Finchley, London N12.

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, this afternoon visited Dollargrand, 419 Finchley Road, London NW3.

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, later attended a Council Meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, 60 Knightsbridge, London SW1.

Her Royal Highness this evening attended the Nobel Laureates Dinner to mark the award of the 1996 Nobel Prize for Chemistry to Sir Harold Kroto at the Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace, London SW1.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 12: The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Almshouse Association, today attended a Luncheon at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Trust, this afternoon visited the Westminster Accommodation and Leaving Care Scheme and met staff and young people who recently left care.

The Prince of Wales, President, afterwards attended a Seminar organised by The Prince's Trust at the Department of Health on advising young people leaving care.

His Royal Highness, President, this evening conferred an Honorary Doctorate upon Monsieur Pierre Boulez at the Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, London SW7.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 12: The Duke of Kent, President, the Football Association, this afternoon attended a Reception given by the Prime Minister, at 10 Downing Street, London SW1.

Royal engagements

The Queen will present The Queen's Anniversary Prizes for higher and further education at Buckingham Palace at 11.00. Later the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will hold a reception for the prizewinners.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of the Welsh Cricket Association, will attend a dinner at the Marriott Hotel, Swansea, at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as Chancellor of London University, will attend a presentation ceremony at the Barbican at 2.15; and will attend a reception for external students at Senate House, Malet Street, WC1, at 6.15.

The Duke of Kent will be present at Buckingham Palace when the Queen presents The Queen's Anniversary Prizes for higher and further education at 10.45; and will be the guest of honour at a dinner at Guildhall at 6.50.

Reception

Prime Minister
The Duke of Kent, President of the Football Association, attended a reception given by the Prime Minister yesterday at 10 Downing Street to mark the success of Euro 96 and to show support for the Football Association's bid to host the World Cup in 2006 and the England team, in advance of their World Cup qualifier against Italy at Wembley.

Poulters' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Poulters' Company for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr T.G. Harris; Upper Warden, Mr R.J.C. Gilpin; Renter Warden, Mr C.R.S. Link.

Birthdays today

Mr Michael Attenborough, principal associate director, Royal Shakespeare Company, 47; Dr D.V. Atterton, chairman, Guinness Mahon Holdings, 70; Mr David Banks, editorial director, Mirror Group Newspapers, 49; Miss Caroline Blakiston, actress, 64; Mr Liam Brady, former football manager, 41; Professor Derek Burke, former Vice-Chancellor, University of East Anglia, 67; Earl Cadogan, 83; Dr J.P. Clayton, former Apothecary to HM Household at Windsor, 76; Miss M.E. Collins, former matron-in-chief, QARNNS, 70; Mr Gareth Davies, chairman, Glynwed International, 67; Rear-Admiral J. Phillip Edwards, Emeritus Fellow and Development Director, Wadham College, Oxford, 70; Professor Janet Finch, Vice-Chancellor, Keele University, 51; Baroness Flather, 63; Dr D.G. Hessayon, horticultural and agricultural author, 69; Professor Lord Lewis of Newnham, FRS, 69; Lord Lovat, 20; Mr John McAllion, MP, 49; Mr Gordon McMaster, MP, 37; Lord Manners, 74; Mr Colin Matthews, composer, 51; the Earl of Moray, 69; Miss Kim Novak, actress, 64; Mr Leonard Pascoe, cricketer, 47; Lord Peyton of Yeovil, 78; Lord Pym, 75; Mr Oliver Reed, actor, 59; Miss Margaretta Scott, actress, 85; Mr George Segal, actor, 63; M Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, author and politician, 73; Dr Donald Sykes, former Principal, Mansfield College, Oxford, 67.

Architects put their winning designs on show

Lottery cash for modest projects

By Marcus Binney
Architecture Correspondent

NEVER again can you complain that the National Lottery is failing to produce imaginative useful buildings for worthy causes.

Picking Winners, a new exhibition at the Royal Institute of British Architects, shows a training centre for the spinally injured by Sir Norman Foster, a new county cricket ground by Sir Michael Hopkins, smart new facilities for sailing, rowing, diving, dramatic art, pop and community theatre in places as varied as Crewkerne, Cumbernauld and Armagh.

These are not the grand slam projects supported by the Millennium Commission, but more modest schemes funded by the Sports Council and Arts Council, some of them giving young architects their first important commissions and providing numerous clubs and voluntary organisations with a chance to expand or build new premises.

Topping the bill is Michael Hopkins' project for a new Hampshire county cricket ground at Eastleigh, in the form of an elliptical arena that is almost as striking as the famous Avebury stone circle.

Michael Hopkins' striking project for a new Hampshire county cricket ground

Bill Taylor, the project architect, says: "Strange to say there are no set dimensions for cricket grounds. Most have simply evolved over time, buying patches of land as they became available. Hampshire wanted to maintain the intimacy of their existing ground. They also have a policy of encouraging spin bowlers so the field has to be large enough to tempt the batsman to strike out, while letting the bowler feel he has still got a chance."

The precise dimensions of the ellipse have been determined by the need for 20 parallel three-metre wide pitches which can be used in turn throughout the season. The surrounding earth bund not only provides raised seating for spectators but will shield noise from the nearby M27.

Mr Taylor continues: "It will take four years to achieve the perfect turf and as the new ground is being created on a sloping site, we have to be absolutely sure there will be no settlement." The £15 million new ground and grandstand will open in 2001.

In Docklands, east London, the Royal Albert Dock Rowing Club has won £8.8 million from the Sports Council towards lengthening the dock to form an Olympic standard 2km course, suitable for Britain's 2008 Olympic bid.

The new boat and clubhouse designed by the architect Ian Ritchie will stand beside the finishing line and has a dramatically pointed prow. Inside it will house a hundred boats and contain a practice tank for a racing eight," says Mr Ritchie. There will be a clubhouse, gym and accommodation for visiting oarsmen.

Ian Ritchie's dramatic design for a boat and clubhouse for the Royal Albert Dock Rowing Club

One of the more unusual projects is a juggernaut lorry adapted by Circus Limited to serve as a touring cinema for Scotland's Highlands and Islands. The sides open up to triple the number of seats.

For the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital at Stanmore, west London, Sir Norman Foster has designed an elegant new sports and leisure centre which will be used to train people with disabilities to become sports centre managers. This is being commissioned by *Aspire*, a charity which works to rehabilitate people with spinal injuries. In Sunderland Andy Gollifer, a young architect, has won his first major commission for a national glass centre, while in Surrey, Robin Snell, the project architect for Glyndebourne Opera House, is designing a new fabric-roofed glass pavilion for Surrey Institute of Art and Design. The message to every voluntary organisation is simple — go for it.

Picking Winners is at the RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1, till March 8.

Lecture

Institution of Mechanical Engineers
Mr Yukinori Nakamura, the Managing Director of Nissan's European Technology Centre, and his Deputy, Mr Ian Milburn, last night presented the James Clayton Memorial Lecture, at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) in London.

Professor Ernest Shannon, President, was in the chair, at an ordinary meeting held afterwards.

Daffodil Ball

The first Daffodil Ball in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care will be held at the Savoy on Wednesday, March 19. For further information telephone 0171-201-2376.

Meeting

The Foreign Press Association in London
Señor Alberto Fujimori, President of Peru, addressed members of the Foreign Press Association in London on Tuesday at their headquarters at 11 Carlton House Terrace.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Ray Adams, Team Vicar, St John's, Haydon Wick: to be also Rural Dean of Cricklade (Bristol).

The Rev Vincent Ashwin, Vicar, St James and St Basil, Fenham and Rural Dean of Newcastle West: to be Vicar, Haydon Bridge and Beltingham w Henshaw and Rural Dean of Hexham (Newcastle).

The Rev Christopher Atkins: now Honorary Assistant Curate, St Denys, Southampton (Winchester).

The Rev Raymond Best, Vicar, Walker Christ Church, and Priest-in-charge, Byker St Martin (Newcastle): now also an Honorary Canon of Newcastle Cathedral.

The Rev Richard Bryant, Vicar, Wylam (Newcastle): now also an Honorary Canon of Newcastle Cathedral.

The Rev Colin Coppen, Priest-in-charge, St James, West Hampstead and Priest-in-charge, St Mary w All Souls, Kilburn: to be Team Rector, Wood Green (London).

The Rev Colin Craven, Team Vicar, St Anne's, Grantham (Lincoln): to be Priest-in-charge, St Peter's, Fairfield (Derby).

The Rev George Curry, Vicar, St Stephen, Low Elswick: to be also Priest-in-charge, St Paul, High Elswick (Newcastle).

The Rev Brian Swallow, Vicar, St Stephen, Burnley: to be *also* Rural Dean of Burnley (Blackburn).

The Rev Bob Toan, Vicar, Rock Ferry: now *also* Rural Dean of Birkenhead (Chester).

The Rev Clive Tomkins, Priest-in-charge, Eastry and Tilmanstone: to be Priest-in-charge, Woodchurch and Assistant Diocesan Stewardship Adviser (Canterbury).

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Richard Cleland, Master of Wyggeston's Hospital (Leicester): to retire July 4.

The Rev Tom Fagan, Honorary Curate (NSM), St Mary, Prescot (Liverpool): to retire April 14.

The Rev John Hambidge, (sic.), Rector, the Sheepy Group of parishes (Leicester): to retire May 31.

The Rev David McIntosh, Priest-in-charge, Barnton (Chester): to resign March 31.

Canon Robin Morris, Rector, Heswall and Rural Dean of Wirrall North (Chester): to retire May 18.

The Rev Desmond Springham, Vicar, Jersey St Andrew (Winchester): to retire May 31.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Lord Randolph Churchill, statesman, Blenheim Palace, 1849; Feodor Chaliapin, singer and actor, Kazan, Russia, 1873; Eleanor Farjeon, writer of children's verse and stories, London, 1881; Georges Simenon, writer and creator of Maigret, Liège, 1901.

DEATHS: Benvenuto Cellini, sculptor and goldsmith, Florence, 1571; Richard Wagner, composer, Venice, 1883; Georges Rouault, Expressionist painter, Paris, 1958; Dame Christabel Pankhurst, suffragette, Los Angeles, 1958.

The massacre of the Macdonalds at Glencoe by the Campbells, 1692.

The Dutch spy Mata Hari was arrested by the French, 1917.

University news

Oxford
Pembroke College
To an Honorary Fellowship: Sir Graham Hart, KCB.
To a Foundation Fellowship: Mr Brian Taylor, Chief Executive, Wardle Storeys Plc.
To a Professorial Fellow: Mr Roger C. Boning, MA, Group Finance Director, Oxford University Press.
To an Emeritus Fellowship: Professor Donald F. McKenzie, MA (New Zealand).

Dinners

Board of Deputies of British Jews
King Hussain and Queen Noor of Jordan and the Prime Minister and Mrs Major were the guests of honour at the annual president's dinner of the Board of Deputies of British Jews held last night at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr and Mrs Poju Zabludowicz were the hosts. Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC, president, was in the chair and Mr John Webber welcomed the guests.

Royal Society
The Princess Royal last night attended a dinner held at the Royal Society to mark the award of the 1996 Nobel Prize for Chemistry to Sir Harold Kroto, FRS. Among those present were:
Sir Aaron Klug, OM, PRS, Sir James Black, FRS, Sir John Cornforth, FRS, Sir Professor Anthony Hewish, FRS, Sir Andrew Huxley, OM, FRS, Professor Brian Josephson, FRS, Dr César Milstein, CH, FRS, Dr Max Perutz, OM, CH, FRS, Lord Porter of Luddenham, OM, FRS, and Professor Joseph Rotblat, FRS (Nobel laureates); Professor Brian Heap (Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society), Sir John Horlock (treasurer), Professor Peter Lachmann (Biological secretary), Professor John Rowlinson (Physical secretary); the Earl of Selborne, FRS, Fields Medallist Sir Michael Atiyah, OM, FRS, Sir John Cadogan, FRS, Sir Richard Sykes, Sir Keith Thomas, FBA, Mr Ian Taylor, MP, Professor Richard Dixon, FRS, Professor Harry Heaney, Professor Michael Lappert, FRS, Professor John Murrell, FRS, Mr Marten Grunditz and Mr John Robinson.

Technology Colleges Trust
Mrs Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, was the principal guest and speaker at a dinner of the Technology Colleges Trust held last night at Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham CTC, Lewisham, to mark the trust's 10th anniversary. Sir Cyril Taylor, chairman, presided. During the evening Mr Garry Weston of the Garfield Weston Foundation was presented with an award as Sponsor of the Year. Among others present were:
Lord Quirk, FBA, Mr Kenneth Baker, CH, MP, Sir Ronald Halstead, Sir Stanley Kalms, Mr Peter Makeham, Mr Peter Smith, Professor Steve Grigg, Mr John Bangs, Mr Ian Hutcheson, Dr Ellen Isler, Councillor Graham Lane, Mrs Kathleen Lund, Councillor Ian Mearns, Mr Alan Parker, Mr Geoffrey Parker, Mr Michael Prideaux, Dr Elizabeth Sidwell, Councillor Saxon Spence, Mr Peter Thompson and Mr Keith Weller.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
The Master of the Rolls was the guest of honour at the Hunterian dinner held last night at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Sir Rodney Sweeetnam, president, and Lady Sweetnam received the guests. Mr Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, was present.

11 Old Square
The Chambers of Mr Grant Crawford and Mr Jonathan Simpkiss at 11 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, held a dinner last night in the Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn to mark the appointment of Sir Timothy Lloyd, their former head of Chambers, as a Judge of the High Court, and of Mr Patrick Powell as a Social Security Commissioner. The guests included:
Lady Lloyd, Mrs Patrick Powell, the Right Hon Sir Richard Scott (Vice-Chancellor) and Lady Scott, and Mr Justice Jonathan Parker (Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster) and Lady Parker.

Crabtree Foundation
Professor David Lachman delivered the oration at the annual dinner of the Crabtree Foundation held last night at University College London. Professor John Mullin presided. Among those present were:
Major-General Ian Baker, Judge Bernard Hargrove, Dr Francisco Seixas da Costa, Mr Frank Delaney and Mr Paul Fisher.

Luncheon

London Yorkshire Society
Sir Donald Thompson, MP, President of the London Yorkshire Society, was in the chair at the society's inaugural luncheon held yesterday at St Stephen's Constitutional Club, Westminster. Dr Bernard Spencer has been elected vice-president and secretary.

Appointment

Mr James Daly to be High Commissioner to Mauritius from late May in succession to Mr John Harrison who is retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.D. Crole and Miss F.M. Hoare
The engagement is announced between Charles, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Gerard Crole, of Greenwich, London, and Fiona, daughter of Mr Michael Hoare, of Dogmersfield, Hampshire, and Mrs Simon Loder, of Sherborne, Dorset.

Mr J.L. Grace and Ms K. O'Brien
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Lionel Grace, of Chiseldon, Wiltshire, and Kit, daughter of Dr Harry Johnstone and the late Mrs Jill Johnstone, of Oxford.

Mr D.J. Harwood and Miss K.V. Rowland
The engagement is announced between David John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Harwood, of Bath, and Katie Victoria, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Rowland, of Woodford, Cheshire.

Mr R.L.A. Lee and Miss V.M. Ashbourne
The engagement is announced between Roger, son of the late Mr Peter Lee and Mrs Lee, of How Caple Court, Herefordshire, and Vanessa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Ashbourne, of Ruckley Grange, Shropshire.

Mr L.N. Mackay and Miss C. van Praagh
The engagement is announced between Loudon Neil, son of Mr and Mrs N.D.M. Mackay, of London SW19, and Camilla, daughter of the late Mr C.B.J. van Praagh and of Mrs J.D.L. Barratt, of Liss, Hampshire.

Mr A.R.F. Vines and Miss C.L. Turnbull
The engagement is announced between Anthony, younger son of Mr and Mrs Edward Vines, of Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, and Clare, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Turnbull, of Solihull, West Midlands.

Latest wills

Sir Quinton **Hazell**, of Warwick, left estate valued at £7,897,829 net.

Major-General Patrick George **Turpin**, of West Clandon, Guildford, Surrey left estate valued at £940,723 net.

Edwin Walker **Wright**, solicitor, of Tettenhall, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, left estate valued at £897,546 net.

Cyril Frederick **Oliver**, of Coventry, left £1,904,404 net.
He left the net balance of his estate to Save The Children Fund for the relief of distress by children in third world countries.

Henry George **Tidy**, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,089,692 net.
He left £1,000 each to St Mary and All Saints Church, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, Pine Ridge Dog Sanctuary and Beaconsfield Old People's Club; shares in his residuary estate to the King George's Fund for Sailors, RNLI, Oxfam, National Trust, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Help the Aged, British Red Cross, Barnardos, RSPCA, NSPCC and RSPB.

Phyllis Ruth **Cockerill**, of Priors Marston, Rugby, Warwickshire, left £1,037,538 net.

George Nigel **Lightfoot**, of Old Bursledon, Hampshire, left £942,497 net.

Trevor Illtyd **Williams**, of Oxford, left £1,093,117 net.

Lawrence Paul **Williams**, of Aston Rowant, Oxfordshire, left £1,582,123 net.

Rita Whymark **Kitchin**, of Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, left £1,032,175 net.
She left four equal shares in her residuary estate to RNLI, Salvation Army, St Mark's Church, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea, and Barnardo's.

Vera Frances Laura **Quinton-Bitton**, of Runhall, Norwich, left £1,334,498 net.
She left the proceeds from the sale of her emerald and diamond three stone ring together with £5,000 to the RSPCA; £700 to the National Rivers Authority for a perpetual trophy in memory of her late husband, Eric, who was the fishery officer for the board, and £500 to the Parochial Church Council of Runhall and Coston. She also left shares in her residuary estate to the Church of England Children's Society, Blue Cross, Redwings Horse Sanctuary, and the RSPCA.

Olive Maude **Willetts**, of Hunnington, Halesowen, West Midlands, left £1,099,723 net.

Gladys **Broughton**, of Nether Alderley, Cheshire, left £1,493,080 net.

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All whom I love I reprove and discipline. Be wholehearted therefore in your repentance. Revelation 3 : 19

BIRTHS

ATHERTON - On 5th February 1997, to John and Fiona (née Wayman), a lovely daughter, Elizabeth Claire.

BALLANTINE - On February 10th 1997, to Marie (née Hughes) and David, a daughter, Fiona Diane.

CAMPBELL - On 5th February at Perth Royal Infirmary, to Helen (née Black) and Andrew, a son, Angus William David, a brother for Alexander.

COX - On 29th January, Natasha Bryony Frances, a beautiful daughter for Nicola (née Sterry) and David.

DONNO-TONKS - On February 10th, to Tina and David, a beautiful son, Jake Joseph.

JOHNSON - Mariah Diamond on February 8th at The Portland Hospital to Shedi and Wallace Johnson a precious gift from God - a lady full of His Shekinah.

SMITH - To Jane (née Condy) and Peter, a daughter, Susanna Jane Idina, on 5th February 1997. Grateful thanks to the staff of King's College Hospital.

TSINDIS - On February 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Alexanra (née Tabakovic) and Efthimis, a beautiful son, Athanasios.

VORA - On February 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Trusha and Bharat, a beautiful daughter, Samira, a sister for Rimma.

WARD - On February 7th 1997 at The Portland Hospital, to Sally (née Burrell) and Stephen, a beautiful son, Nicholas Edward.

WINTER - On December 26th, to Carol and Christopher, a daughter, Georgina Lucy.

DEATHS

ATTENBOROUGH - Jane (née Ociel), greatly loved wife of David, mother, sister, aunt and grandmother, suddenly and peacefully at Charing Cross Hospital on February 10th. Funeral Service at 11am, St Anne's Church, Kew Green, Surrey on February 20th followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

CORNER - On February 10th 1997 peacefully at home, Lt. Col. Denham Richmond Corner aged 85 years. Husband of the late Joan, father of Michael and Nicky and grandfather of Oliver and Giles. Funeral Service at St Laurence's Church, Affpuddle on Monday February 17th at 2 pm. Flowers and enquiries to Grassby Funeral Service, 16 Princes Street, Dorchester, tel: (01305) 262338.

FOXLEY NORRIS - Daphne (née Stokes) died peacefully on 10th February 1997. Dearly loved wife of Michael, mother of Carola, Marcia, P-J and Sarah and beloved grandmother and great-grandmother. Family funeral Edington Priory Church, near Westbury, Wilts, at 11.30 am Monday 17th February 1997.

GILLAMS - Rosemary (née Benda) who died suddenly on Saturday 8th February at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital after being taken ill the previous evening. Known by so many of her friends as Rosie, she will always be remembered for her warmth, youthful vivacity and other wonderful qualities. Donations, if desired, to 'Macmillan Nurses' Appeal Office, Duchess of Kent House, 22 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2DX.

GREEN - Major Frederick Crookenden Green M.C. R.T.R. (Retd) suddenly in hospital on 9th February aged 85 years. Dearly loved husband of Elizabeth, brother of Christina and John, uncle and great-uncle. Funeral Service to take place at Uckfield Holy Cross Church on Tuesday 18th February at 2.30 pm followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Donations if desired to The Brooke Hospital or British Heart Foundation c/o Cooper & Son, 11 New Town, Uckfield TN22 5DL.

HINCHLIFF - In St Columba's Hospice, Edinburgh, on February 10th 1997, Jennifer Margaret (née Heath), loving mother of Ben, Adam and Rebecca, beloved daughter of Wallis and Jane Heath, dear sister of Kirsty and Sandra and for twenty five years the wife of the late John Hinchliff of Penistone, Yorkshire. Funeral Service in Hope Park Church, St Andrews, at 1.30 pm on Monday February 17th and thereafter to St Andrews Western Cemetery. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to St Columba's Hospice, Edinburgh EH5 3RW.

HOWIE - Peacefully on 11th February 1997 Thomas Shields Wylie Howie, beloved and cherished husband of Pam Lawson, most loving father of Rosalyn, Evonne, Pamela, Patricia, Roderick and Ronald and dearly loved stepfather of Norrie, Tony and Bill Abram and Susie Gemmell and dear grandfather and much loved brother of Edith Ragleseome and the late Drew Howie. Funeral Service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, Ayrshire, on Monday 17th February at 2.30 pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

JOHNSTON - On February 10th 1997 unexpectedly William Dempster (Bill) aged 50 years of Shrivenham, near Swindon, Wilts., Flight Engineer with British Airways. Much loved husband of Siobhan, very dear Dad of Will and Niall, dear son of William and Margaret and son-in-law of Doreen Carr. Funeral at Kingsdown Crematorium, Swindon, on Thursday February 20th at 11 am. Family flowers only by request. Donations in lieu for The Renal Unit, Churchill Hospital, Oxford, may be sent to A.E. Smith & Son, Queens Drive, Swindon SN3 1AW. Enquiries tel: (01793) 522023.

LUNT - On Tuesday February 11th peacefully at Rake House, Liss, Marjorie, lately of Petersfield, aged 85 years. Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter's Church, Petersfield, on Thursday February 20th at 3 pm. Donations if desired to The Stroke Association c/o Funeral Services (Petersfield) Ltd., 19 The Square, Petersfield, Hants. GU32 3HB. Tel: (01730) 262711.

MANSFIELD - Oliver Turquand FRCS on February 8th 1997 aged 84 years, dearly loved husband of Jean and father of Suzanne and Elizabeth. Funeral Service at St John's Church, Harborne, on Tuesday February 18th at 1.50 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research c/o 40 Wentworth Road, Birmingham, B17 9TA.

NEYLAN - Mary (née Shelley), widow of Daniel, died peacefully February 9th. Sorely missed by Sarah, Liz, grandchildren and friends. Requiem Mass Sacred Heart, Cecil Road, Paignton, February 18th 9.30 am. Memorial Service St Mary's, Rotherhithe, London, March 12th 2.30 pm. Enquiries Maunders (01803) 556581.

OLDHAM - Orlando, peacefully on 10th February. Beloved husband, father, stepfather and grandfather. Friend to many. Memorial Service will take place at Christchurch Church, Cheltenham, on Tuesday 18th February at 2.30 pm. All welcome. Family flowers only please, donations for the Sue Ryder Home, Leckhampton Court, may be sent c/o Selim Smith & Co, 74 Prestbury Road, Cheltenham. Tel: (01242) 525383.

RAND - Nell aged 83, suddenly and peacefully in hospital in Reading on Sunday 9th February 1997. Much loved and ever-loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and sister, she will also be greatly missed by all her friends. Funeral at Chaddleworth Parish Church at 2 pm on Saturday 15th February 1997. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, may be sent to Camp Hopson Funeral Directors, 6/12 Northbrook Street, Newbury, RG14 1DN or to Richard Rand or Mary Abbis for the benefit of The Dowland Surgery Equipment Fund and Chaddleworth Village Hall Refurbishment Fund.

WARNER - On February 11th, peacefully at home, Kathleen, aged 82 years. Sister of Marion and much loved cousin and godmother. Private cremation. All enquiries to F.W. House and Sons, Funeral Directors, Lymington, Hampshire, (01590) 673142.

WALLS - Muriel Mackie, MBE. On 10th February 1997, aged 85, at Birtley House Nursing Home, Bramley, Surrey, after a short illness. Beloved wife of the late Robin, mother of Janet, Nicholas and Alan, grandmother of Michael and Edward and mother-in-law of Edward and Celia. No funeral since, at her request, her body is being donated for medical research.

WICKHAM - On Wednesday 12th February 1997, peacefully at New Hall Hospital, Salisbury, with her family around her, Esther Barbara, beloved wife of John and adored mother of Colin, Andrew and Sarah. Funeral Service at Steeple Langford Church on Friday 21st February at 12 noon and interment in the churchyard. Flowers or, if preferred, donations to the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund may be sent to Chris White, Funeral Director, 12 South Street, Wilton, Wilts. (01722) 744691.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

COSSART - Charlie. The funeral will take place at 12 noon on Monday 17th February at St Lawrence's Church, Petersfield, Hampshire. Family flowers only. Donations to British Diabetic Association and The Wessex Childrens Hospice Trust, c/o Lintott & Sons Funeral Directors, North Street, Midhurst, GU29 9DG. (01730-813264).

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

HOOPER - Margaret Lilian. October 30th 1914-February 13th 1993. Many happy memories of a much loved mother. Rest in peace. Brian.

BIRTHDAYS

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LAWRENCE A. FLEISCHMAN

Lawrence A. Fleischman, art collector and philanthropist, died in London on January 31 aged 71. He was born in Detroit, Michigan, on February 14, 1925.

Larry Fleischman was an authority on modern American art and a champion of its wider appreciation. He was a tireless fundraiser for the arts in both America and Europe, an important benefactor to many philanthropic causes and a vigorous collector of ancient art. His financial assistance to the British Museum's Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities was particularly remarkable. He funded the refurbishment of several of its important galleries and organised fundraising for the museum in America.

Lawrence Arthur Fleischman was the son of Jewish émigrés from Russia. He might be said to have inherited his dynamism from his father and his sensitivity and passion for beautiful objects from his mother. At the age of 18 he joined the US Army and in the following summer was shipped to Europe and Omaha Beach.

Later, on leave in London, he visited the British Museum and saw the display of masterpieces just then restored to view in the King Edward VII Gallery. This early contact with ancient art and the British Museum made a lasting impression on him.

Back in America after the war, he studied at Detroit University while helping to run the sales side of his father's carpet company. In 1948 he married Barbara Greenberg, and thus began a remarkable partnership. At this time two of the great threads in Fleischman's life began to emerge — his interest in art and his talent for fundraising.

His interest in American art blossomed under the guidance of Edgar P. Richardson, director of the Detroit Institute of Arts. They established the Archives of American Art, a primary research resource for art historians, now part of the Smithsonian Institution.

In the 1950s the Fleischmans formed one of the earliest private collections of American art, which the State Department determined to send abroad in the interest of enhancing America's cultural profile: this included a 20-month tour of South America and exhibitions in Tel Aviv, Athens, Istanbul and Reykjavik. Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson both asked him to serve on the Fine Arts Committee for the White House.

In 1966 the Fleischmans moved to New York and bought a half share of the Kennedy Gallery. Here Larry Fleischman developed strong personal relationships with many leading American artists; he also tracked down important, lost works by earlier American painters. In 1969 he founded the *American Art Journal*. He became a board member of the Art Dealers Association of America and was made a Fellow of the Pierpont Morgan Library.

In 1971 Pope Paul VI invited him to assist in the formation of a collection of modern religious art. Together with Vatican officials and churchmen in New York Fleischman formed an unlikely coalition of talents that succeeded not only in forming a remarkable collection but also in seeing it through to exhibition in the Vatican Museums. His efforts were formally recognised by Pope Paul, who made him a Knight of the Order of St Sylvester.

This connection with great museums naturally led the Fleischmans to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, where their endowments include a chair in the museum's department of American art; three galleries in its American wing showing American art from the permanent collection; a gallery of late medieval secular art; and a permanent senior post for a scholar in the department of Greek and Roman art.

The Fleischmans' second great collection was of antiquities. Built up over more than 40 years and embracing objects from ancient Greece, Rome and Etruria dating from 2800 BC to 400 AD, it was the product of a passion for art, a fascination with history and a sense of responsibility for the preservation and understanding of Classical art. It was shown to the public in the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu and in Cleveland between 1994 and 1995, and in an act of typical generosity was donated to the Getty Museum in 1996. The Fleischmans always insisted that they were "temporary custodians, not possessors".

Larry Fleischman's early connection with the British Museum was renewed in the late 1980s. Larry was instrumental in forming an international group of supporters of the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, the so-called Caryatids. In this way he began to forge special links with the staff, as a result of his vigorous commitment to scholarship, and to support a Museum that he sometimes referred to as a "United Nations of Art".

In 1991 he funded the refurbishment of the Bassae Gallery and some three years later agreed to take over the running of the British Museum's fundraising arm in America. In 1995 he pledged a most generous sum to enable the redevelopment of two galleries devoted to the explanation of the Parthenon and its sculptures. Again in 1996 he came to the department's aid when funds were needed to refurbish the gallery on the Greek Bronze Age. Sadly he did not live to see these last two projects completed.

A bustling, dynamic figure, sometimes challenging, sometimes charming, driven from project to project, savouring adventure, always reaching for the highest quality, Fleischman was an eloquent ambassador for the arts, a collector with an outstanding eye, and generous in every way.

He is survived by his wife and by two daughters and a son.

SQUADRON LEADER BUNNY RYMILLS

Squadron leader Bunny Rymills, DFC and Bar, DFM, wartime Lysander pilot on clandestine air operations, died on January 12 aged 76. He was born on August 11, 1920.

ALTHOUGH he began his war on bomber operations over Germany, it was as an exceptionally capable pilot of Lysanders, picking up Resistance fighters and secret agents from occupied France that Bunny Rymills wil be best remembered. Landing on short, improvised airstrips, often on rough fields, by moonlight, with nothing but the torches of the reception committee to guide him in, was hazardous work and the aircraft had to be brought to a stop in 150 yards.

Frank Earnest Rymills was educated at Southfields School and trained as an architect. But seeing that war was imminent, he volunteered to learn to fly with the RAF Volunteer Reserve in the summer of 1939 and trained as a bomber pilot.

On his 21st birthday, as a sergeant pilot, he was over Germany in a Whitley bomber of No 58 Squadron in 4 Group. He survived 26 bombing raids.

In February 1942, by then commissioned as a pilot officer, Rymills was posted to No 138 Special Duties Squadron to fly parachute missions in Whitleys and Halifaxes. He and his squadron dropped agents and containers of weapons and supplies to intelligence and resistance networks in occupied Europe.

One night after landing his Halifax back at Tangmere, while taxiing round the perimeter track he just avoided running over Wing Commander Pickard, the CO of No 161 SD Squadron who had just landed a Lysander after a pick-up. Over a game of cards in Tangmere Cottage, "Pick" offered Bunny a job as a Lysander pilot which was eagerly accepted, to the annoyance of 138 Squadron's CO.

With its excellent Short Take-Off and Landing (STOL) performance the Lysander, originally designed as an Army co-operation aircraft, was ideal for the sneak visits to occupied France which were required by the operations of the British secret services. Rymills's first missions with No 161 was in January 1943 and in the six months he spent with the squadron he became renowned for his skill in getting his aircraft down onto clearings and meadows under the most difficult circumstances. On one occasion he rescued an RAF sergeant who had been shot down and, fortunately for him, had parachuted virtually to the feet of a Resistance fighter's wife.

When Rymills left 161 Squadron in July 1943 he had completed 65 operations without a rest — twice the normal ration. On the evening of D-Day he was one of the 38 Group pilots towing gliders to Normandy to reinforce the 6th Airborne Division near Caen in Operation Mallard.

After the war he was posted to Malaya and assisted in operation Termite, flushing out communist guerrillas from the jungle. In his spare time he would enjoy shooting wild pigs in the jungle.

In August 1963 he retired from the RAF and settled in Suffolk to enjoy his retirement with his wife Pennie whom he had married in 1940. He started pig farming with his sons, and when he could leave them to carry on he started up a firm called Cam Metric which made scientific instruments in Cambridge. He also kept ferrets and bees and enjoyed watercolour painting, birdwatching and all aspects of the countryside — including poaching with his specially powerful catapult.

Taking the salute at the Remembrance Day parade last November, he caught a chill which may have led to the pneumonia from which he did not recover. He leaves his widow Pennie, two sons and two daughters.

Bunny Rymills and a restored Lysander at the Fairford Air Tattoo in July 1995

BARRY EVANS

Barry Evans, actor, died on February 11 aged 52. He was born on June 18, 1944.

BARRY EVANS, who has been found dead at his home, was a familiar face in British film and television comedies of the late 1960s and 1970s, when his boyish charm brought him a succession of leading roles.

He specialised in endearingly innocent young men, and first won critical acclaim for his engaging performance in *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*, the 1967 film in which he played a teenage schoolboy farcically intent on losing his virginity. But his greatest success was as the naive and nervous medical student Michael Upton in the popular television series *Doctor in the House*, based on the books by Richard Gordon. His youthful good looks and sweet confusion drew an enthusiastic and not wholly maternal response from female viewers.

His talent for portraying comic anxiety and sexual vulnerability brought Evans fame, and a respectable £500 a week; but it also denied him the more serious roles he wanted. He left the *Doctor* programmes after the second series, *Doctor at Large*, only to find himself playing the perky but put-upon young English teacher Jeremy Brown in the London Weekend Television comedy series *Mind Your Language*. In the cinema he went on to star in a dismal 1975 sex farce, *Adventures of a Taxi Driver*.

That was his last film appearance. As the fresh-faced appeal on which his career was based began to fade, Evans found himself less and less in demand. By the time of his death, he had been working as a taxi driver for several years.

Barry Evans was born in Guildford and brought up in an orphanage at Twickenham. Many of the other boys in the home went into the Forces, but Evans was encouraged in his ambition to become an actor, and at the age of 18 he won a John Gielgud scholarship to the Central School of Speech and Drama in London.

On graduating he found work with regional repertory companies, a role in Arnold Wesker's *Chips with Everything*, and some "spear-carrying parts" at the National Theatre, before *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush* brought wider attention.

Written by Hunter Davis, the film's approach to its sexual subject matter was considered rather daring in 1967. The director, Clive Donner, wanted someone who looked 17 but had solid experience as an actor; Evans was ideal, and his performance was praised as "a definitive portrait of a boy on the threshold of manhood". The same year, he appeared in a BBC production of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

The *Doctor* programmes, which began in 1969, brought Evans a degree of celebrity with which he was never quite comfortable. He had a reputation as a loner, and was reluctant to do the interviews or public appearances that are expected of a television star.

Declining to make a third *Doctor* series in 1971, he concentrated for a while on theatre work, which included directing plays at Theatr Clwyd in Mold. Any rewards were purely spiritual, however, and after a period in debt and dependent on Social Security, he approached LWT about the possibility of more television work. The result was *Mind Your Language*, a comedy series which ran from 1977 to 1981.

"I'm not in love with acting," Evans once said. "It's just the easiest way I know to accumulate money quickly." When that easy option became more difficult, he left the business altogether. For the last few years of his life he lived quietly in a dilapidated bungalow at Claybrooke Magna, near Lutterworth, Leicestershire, where he worked as a taxi driver, first for a local firm and then latterly on his own account.

The press had speculated eagerly on Evans's private life throughout his career, suggesting romantic links with several of his more glamorous co-stars, particularly the actress Judy Geeson, to whom he was said to have proposed. He did nothing to curb the speculation, but he lived alone and never married.

PHILIP STIBBE

Philip Stibbe, headmaster of Norwich School, died on January 17 aged 75. He was born on July 20 1921.

UNTIL the end of his life Philip Stibbe always remembered the sacrifice that had been made for him during the Second World War by Burma Rifleman Maung Tun. As a young officer taking part in Orde Wingate's first foray into Burma, Stibbe was severely wounded in a skirmish at Hintha. He was reported "missing presumed dead" by his column commander Bernard Fergusson. Stibbe would, indeed, have died were it not for the courage of Maung Tun who volunteered to stay behind with him and, even when captured by the Japanese, refused to reveal where the wounded British officer lay hidden. He died under brutal torture.

"I can never be worthy of the sacrifice he made," Stibbe later wrote in *Return via Rangoon* (1947), an autobiographical account of his part in the first Chindit expedition and his subsequent two years spent in appalling conditions as a prisoner of war in Rangoon jail. "I shall always have the feeling that my life is not my own."

It was this sense of a debt owed to others, together with a lifelong passion for literature, which inspired Stibbe after the war to become a teacher. For 21 years he was a housemaster at Bradfield College, and from there he went on in 1975 to become headmaster of Norwich School. Few of his pupils or colleagues, however, knew of his wartime escapades, until his account of them in *Return via Rangoon* was republished in 1994.

Philip Godfrey Stibbe was educated at Mill Hill School from where he won a place at Merton College, Oxford. He originally intended to read Classics but later changed to study English, inspired by Wordsworth's *Tintern Abbey*. He never lost this love of literature and, even in the Burmese jungle, marched with a copy of Milton in his rucksack.

Dunkirk prompted him to join the Army, initially with the Royal Sussex Regiment, and then the 13th Battalion of the King's (Liverpool) Regiment on special duties in India. The first Chindit expedition in which he took part shattered the myth of the invincible Japanese soldier, proving that it was possible to harass the enemy deep behind his own lines. Stibbe was mentioned in dispatches for his part in the skirmish at Hintha.

After two harrowing years as a prisoner of war in Rangoon jail, Stibbe was released and he returned to Oxford to complete his degree. His rooms at Merton were the same he had left several years earlier — this was a gesture he considered typically considerate of the college.

On graduating he took a teaching job at Bradfield College and was appointed a housemaster in 1953. He was to remain in this post for 21 years.

In 1975, at the age of 54, he was appointed Headmaster of Norwich School. During his time there he guided the school back from direct grant to fully independent status and introduced a sixth form tutorial system and the Friends of Norwich School.

Stibbe was especially pleased with the restoration of the school's medieval chapel. It was the focus of all he believed in: courtesy, integrity, perseverance and, above all, the courage of Christian conviction.

He retired in 1984 with Parkinson's disease, an affliction which he bore valiantly and with characteristic cheerfulness for 18 years.

Philip Stibbe is survived by his wife Joy, daughter of Canon Grant Thornton of Leicester, whom he married in 1956 and by a daughter and two sons.

ON THIS DAY

February 13, 1922

A notable event in the pontificate of Pius XI (1922-39) was his signing with Mussolini of the Lateran Treaty which recognised the independent sovereignty of the Vatican.

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(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROME, Feb 12

To-day, at any rate, all roads in Rome, led to St. Peter's, and by 4.30 this morning there were several thousands of people in the Piazza waiting for the doors of the Basilica to be opened.

At six o'clock the bridges across the Tiber were black with carriages, motor-cars, taxi-cabs, all charging heavy prices for the occasion, conveying men in evening dress and women in black mantillas through the early morning dusk towards the Vatican; and in and out of the foot passengers ran men selling camp-stools. Outside the Basilica itself were 900 Italian troops and military police, endeavouring to sort out the tickets and sending them to the different entrances.

Many of the tickets had been sold by the principal hotels at prices ranging from £2 to £20, which explains why so many legitimate applicants found that the envelopes which should have contained their tickets were empty when they received them. But the confusion over the distribution of tickets was even surpassed by the confusion at the various entrances and in one or two cases people were unjustly seized by military police and thrown out by force. These occurrences are possibly excusable when it is realised that at one time 50,000 people were in the Basilica.

I passed round behind St. Peter's and entered the Vatican itself. But in the Cortile of San Damaso, the Cardinals were arriving and mounting to the Sala Regia, where they bid good-bye to their relatives before vesting for the ceremony. On the Scala Regia guards wearing thick busbies were keeping the stairs clear for the Papal procession into the Basilica itself, which gave forth the noise of thousands of voices. Every tomb and confessional-box and, in some cases, the altars themselves were black with people, who waited patiently till 20 minutes to 9 when a sudden burst of cheering greeted the arrival of the procession to the strains of the famous silver trumpets playing Longhi's Papal March.

It was nearly an hour before the Pope, on his *Sedia gestatoria*, entered beneath the shade of an enormous silver canopy and proceeded to the main altar to celebrate mass. At the Pope's passage the whole crowd cheered waving handkerchiefs as though greeting a victorious monarch.

When the Pope elevated and displayed the Host in every direction, the Cardinals and all the people immediately knelt down facing the altar, while the Noble Guard came smartly to attention and went down on one knee with one hand at the salute and the points of their swords resting on the green carpet. At the same moment, silver trumpets rang out, simulating the voices of angels. Immediately afterwards the procession formed up again for the Coronation.

The event was announced to the people outside by the pealing of the bells of St. Peter's. Their patience was rewarded for, at 20 minutes past one, the doors above the middle entrance were again opened and the Papal cloth was again hung over the balustrade and ten minutes later the Pope, wearing the tiara, appeared to give his blessing.

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■ PASSENGERS flying Debonair from Luton before March 17 can take a companion for £50 if both tickets are bought by February 17. Destinations include Barcelona, Copenhagen, Madrid, Munich and Rome. Details: 0500 146200.

■ DEPART by February 28 and Air Tickets Direct has Continental Airlines seat sale fares to New York for £195, Washington and Boston for £206, Orlando £255 and Denver £285. Details: 01279 713713.

■ BOOK before February 19 and British Airways Express flights from Gatwick to Amsterdam, Antwerp, Cologne, Cork, Dublin, Düsseldorf, Channel Islands, Leeds, Newcastle or Rotterdam cost a flat £59 return. Details: 0345 222111.

■ THE Birmingham-based Maersk Air requires only 1,000 air miles (1,300 normally) to be redeemed for a return Birmingham-Berlin flight taken before March 31. Details: 0990 511806.

HOLIDAYS

A TASTE of spring in Paris, Amsterdam or Brussels is available from £135 a person from Impulse Holidays with two nights' bed and breakfast hotel accommodation and return flights from Gatwick and Manchester. Departures every Friday up to March 21. Details: 0181-741 9007.

■ SAVINGS of £40 are available on cottages at Sidbury, east Devon, through Blakes Cottages. Facilities include indoor heated pool and play area. Typical prices: £246 a week for a cottage sleeping four. Details: 01282 445097.

■ OPERA TICKETS, concert bookings and Spanish Riding School tickets can be provided by Eurobreak on short holidays to Vienna. Prices start from £268 a person for return scheduled flights and three nights' hotel accommodation before the end of March. Details: 0181-780 7700.

■ DJERBA ISLAND in Tunisia for a week's B&B in a three-star hotel is available from £229 a person from Panorama. Flights depart from Gatwick on February 22, March 1 and 8. Details: 01273 206531.

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■ LAS VEGAS for £359 a person for a week's room-only accommodation, with a flight from Gatwick on February 24, is available from Unijet. Details: 0990 336336.

■ COSTA CRUISES has cut a third from the price of eight-night Caribbean cruises leaving March 1 and 15 to visit seven islands. Prices from £750, plus £60 port tax, include return flights from Britain, all meals and entertainment. Details: 0171-323 3333.

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FERRIES

HOVERSPEED has joined the battle for advance bookings to France. Standard returns for a car and up to five people cost £78 for any Folkestone-Boulogne crossing this summer, if booked before February 28 (Dover-Calais, £109). Details: 01304 240241.

■ SWANSEA Cork Ferries has a midweek fare from £155 return to cover a car and up to five adults, available from March 18 to May 21, excluding Easter. Details: 01792 456116.

■ STENA LINE has a duty-free sale until March 27: litres of spirits for £7.99, 200 cigarettes for £9.99 and five cases of beer for £49.99. Sale goods available on France, The Netherlands and Ireland routes. Details: 0990 767676.

■ P&O FERRIES has a ten-day return ticket from £105 on its routes from Portsmouth to Le Havre or Cherbourg, valid for a car and two passengers. Details: 0990 980980.

■ SHORTBREAKS in Dublin are available with Stena Line with prices from £94 for two nights B&B, including return car-ferry crossings from Holyhead to Dun Loaghaire on the high-speed HSS. Hotel stays from £136 for three nights during March. Details: 0990 747474.

HOTELS

NEW from Hilton Hotels is its latest Past Times Heritage Weekends and European City Tours brochures featuring gardens and art lovers' tours of Cannes and Barcelona, Scottish Highland tours and a review of historic coastal defences and Roman treasures of southern England. Details: 0171-856 8393.

■ ETTINGTON PARK Hotel, near Stratford upon Avon, is offering dinner, bed and breakfast for £105 a person a night for any two nights over the Easter weekend. Details: 01789 450123.

■ FREE accommodation for children accompanying paying parents is offered from the 80 Sofitel Hotels worldwide at weekends and during certain weekdays. Details: 0181-741 9699.

■ THE HYDE PARK Hotel in Central London, now part of the Mandarin Oriental hotel group, has a special weekend room rate until the end of March of £225 a night, plus VAT, for a Queen room, instead of the normal rate of £260. Details: 0171-235 2000.

■ The Hyatt Regency Hotel at La Manga in Spain has a 50 per cent discount on normal rates until the end of the month, plus special prices for sports and leisure activities in the resort. The Great Deal rate is now 14,500 pesetas, plus tax, a night for a single or double room. Details: 0345 581666.

■ WOOD HALL Hotel near Wetherby in West Yorkshire has an Easter package of £80 a person a night with the option of extra nights at £55 a person. Price includes dinner, a make-up demonstration or outdoor activities such as horse-racing. Details: 01937 587271.

■ A 25 PER CENT discount on suites is available at ITT Sheraton Hotels in the UK until the end of May. Suite prices start at £150 a night, on offer at the Sheraton Skyline hotel at Heathrow. Details: 0800 353535.

■ EASTER RATES at the Haycock Hotel, a 16th-century coaching inn near Peterborough, are £30 a person a night over the Friday and Saturday of Easter weekend, with Sunday night free. Details: 01780 782223.

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New rail firms plan first class shake up

By Tony Dawe

A REVOLUTION in rail travel is expected later this year with the introduction of club class and "super first" services by the privatised companies now running long-distance lines.

Plans are being finalised to launch a new class of travel for passengers paying the full standard fare on trains between London and the East Midlands and on the London to Scotland East Coast line.

Eurostar and Virgin, which has just won the London to Glasgow West Coast franchise, are expected to go one better and offer four grades of travel with super first and super standard classes added to the traditional services.

The extra classes reflect the new era of rail travel which started with the privatisation of British Rail and will be the first major change in the standard of service offered to passengers since the abolition of third class in the post-war years.

The changes will mean, however, that those travelling on cheap day returns and super saver tickets will become, in effect, third or even fourth class passengers like air travellers on the cheapest tickets who are often seated at the back of long haul planes.

The main purpose of introducing a club class service is to lure business travellers unwilling to pay expensive first class fares and unable to use saver tickets because they start their journeys at peak times. They will be seated in carriages similar to existing first class while first class will be upgraded to offer extra comfort and service.

Midland Mainline — which operates high speed services between St Pancras station, London, and Leicester, Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield — is expected to launch its club class service in the autumn. "We are looking at providing something extra for business travellers who make up 50 per cent of our customers," said Kevin Johnson, a company spokesman.

Sea Containers, which runs the East Coast main line trains, is also looking at introducing a business class service.

Eurostar is working on the launch of premium first and premium standard services on its trains between Waterloo, London, and Paris and Brussels. "We operate big trains with 18 coaches and 770 seats and believe that having just two classes of accommodation is prescriptive," says a spokesman.

"We would like to offer a greater choice for those who buy fully flexible tickets and give them more privacy, which is what business people want."

Details are still being worked out but travellers in "super first" might expect a better choice of catering and free newspapers while those in "super standard" will get more space and a wider choice of food, although free meals will still be limited to first class passengers.

The first company to introduce a club class was Le Shuttle, which relaunched the service this week on its vehicle-carrying trains between Folkestone and Calais. The extras, available at a £15 premium each way, make life easier for passengers as they arrive at the terminals rather than on board the trains.

Club class travellers are offered a "fast track" service at the ticket booths and a place at the front of the queue.

Airtours believes timeshare's reputation is improving rapidly and it plans to target the 150,000 package tourists who visit Florida every year

Airtours goes for timeshares in Florida

By Harvey Elliott

BRITAIN's second biggest package tour operator is to sell timeshares in Florida in a move which could transform the way Britain goes on holiday.

Next month Airtours will begin selling a week's timeshare on apartments in Lake Eve, Florida, from £6,000 per week. The main target audience will be the 150,000 package tourists who fly to Florida each year with the company.

Details of the new offers will be given in future Airtours brochures and Airtours passengers will see a video in flight and will be offered incentives to visit the development.

Gary Wardrope, Airtours marketing manager, said yesterday: "This is a new baby for Airtours which will soon take on a life of its own. We realise that until now timeshare has had a poor image among many holidaymakers in Britain, but we have a reputation for taking on difficult schemes and making them work."

The decision to enter the market was taken after Airtours executives finally became convinced that timeshare was becoming acceptable. Already Disney, Marriott and Hyatt are selling properties on a timeshare basis and the industry is said to be worth more than $5 billion a year. Other British holiday companies are watching the development and are bound to join if it proves a success.

Airtours has become a joint partner in an American company which is building a five-star development of apartments in Lake Eve near Disney World. It has invested $24 million in the first phase of the development, which includes 34 units and will be available for timeshare purchase from November.

Over the next seven years the site will be extended until it contains 646 separate apartments with one, two and three bedrooms. Airtours is also looking out for opportunities in other parts of the world that are popular with timeshare buyers.

Anyone signing up for a property will become a member of the giant RCI timeshare exchange company and will be able to swap their property for one in more than 3,000 developments — known in the trade as "resorts" — around the world.

"Timeshare is coming of age," said Mr Wardrope. "You now have some really big players in the industry, the properties we are looking at are all five-star luxury standard and clients can be assured that there are no cowboys involved."

In an effort to tempt potential clients to buy, Airtours will offer its existing package holidaymakers to Florida an incentive worth around $100 to visit the site of the new timeshares.

"We will offer each client either two days' free car hire, free passes to Disney or dinner for two worth $100 just to visit the resort," said Mr Wardrope. "We are very serious about this and people will know that we are not a fly-by-night company which is going to disappear."

The timeshare industry is among the biggest growth areas of the holiday business, increasing at about 15 per cent a year.

Talking a lot but missing the point

What are conferences and conventions for? Almost every week an industry, trade or organisation takes over a hotel or a conference centre somewhere to listen to professional speakers, mingle and talk to each other, and maybe pick up a bit of business.

Most single-issue groups tend to focus on the interests that directly affect them, rather than the broader problems confronting their customers.

The travel industry, however — perhaps because its success is inextricably linked to the dreams and aspirations of both holidaymakers and businessmen — is more eclectic in its discussions than most.

The annual get-together of the British Incoming Tour Operators Association (Bitoa), which represents the 200 or so organisations responsible for bringing in the majority of Britain's 24 million foreign tourists each year, took place in Jersey last week. Members fretted not only about their own immediate problems but also those faced by their customers.

With senior politicians from each of the three parties listening in, they wanted to know about VAT on tourism, about the value of the pound, how they will cope when duty-free is abolished, the classification of hotels, the easing of Britain's laws on gaming, and rabies, and many other issues.

The Travel Business

HARVEY ELLIOTT

Sadly, however, the key problem now confronting the British tourism industry was largely brushed aside. Only one questioner wanted to know how long Britain could go on encouraging more and more tourists when roads, especially in London, are clogged beyond congestion, when the Lakes and the Peak District are being worn away, and when "honeypots" such as Oxford and Stratford are being turned into alien settlements for much of the year.

He received the usual platitudinous replies. It was a "difficult" problem and the only real answer was to "spread the load" and encourage tourists to travel outside London and the key centres. I have not yet heard of any scheme which would have such an effect because foreign visitors come to Britain to see London and the other attractions we so often take for granted.

But someone soon must at least discuss whether there are limits to growth, whether our airports, roads and ports are capable of further expansion and whether we want to build more, or let the existing infrastructure simply become saturated and so create a natural cap.

While the big issue was swept aside one small practical suggestion was made privately which I believe warrants discussion.

Why, said the owner of the cut-price airline EasyJet (who admittedly has an axe to grind), is air passenger duty levied at a flat rate? If it was a percentage of the cost of a flight it would benefit those seeking the cheapest possible flight, be more equitable and also enable the Government to increase its revenue.

A £10 tax on a £29 ticket from Luton to Scotland — which will be payable by all air travellers from November — is an awful lot compared with £20 on a £5,000 Concorde flight across the Atlantic. Discuss.

That, after all, is what conferences are for.

Newsagents to sell travel insurance

NEARLY 3,000 newsagents in many of Britain's key towns and cities are to sell cut-price travel insurance along with the morning papers, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

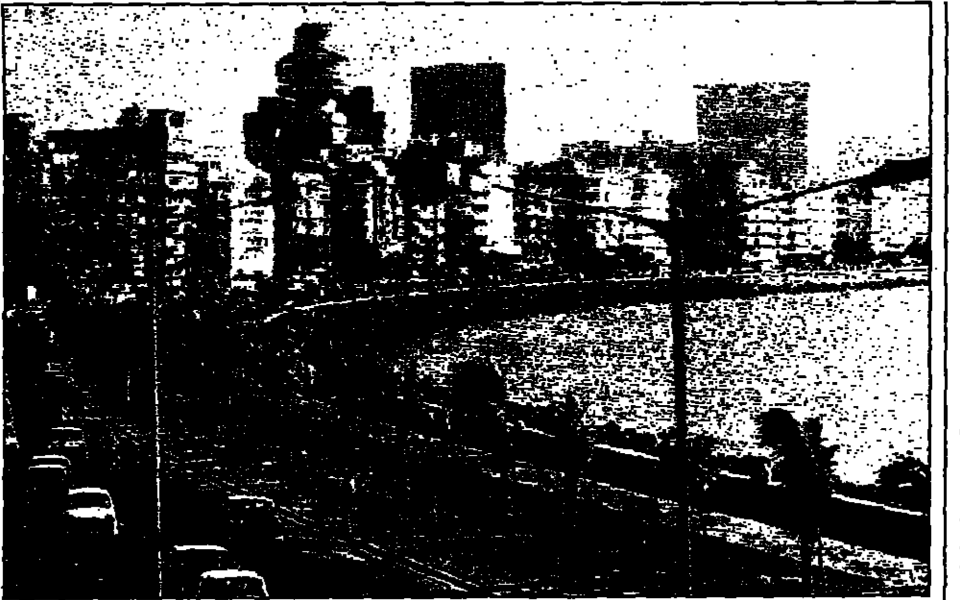
Under the general title "Gullivers" the travel insurance policy will dramatically undercut rival schemes, according to the National Federation of Retail Newsagents.

"We are targeting the agents who operate in the bigger towns and cities and which are in the best locations," Chander Hingorani, financial controller of NFRN, said.

"Householders will soon be getting leaflets telling them they can buy insurance through our members much cheaper than going through a travel agent or a broker."

Each of the newsagents who will take part already delivers paper to between 500 and 600 households and, with a back-up advertising campaign, the federation is convinced it can grab a big share of the fast expanding travel insurance market.

It claims, for example, that a family of four travelling to Europe for between 11 and 17 days would pay £49.50 for the newsagents' insurance, underwritten at Lloyds, compared with £52.55 at a Post Office or £115.32 through Lunn Poly. The premium would, however, still be higher than through a direct-sell insurance agency such as Columbus which would charge £37.85 on average.



Business travellers can expect to pay more for hotels in Bombay than anywhere else

Bombay tops hotel price league

BOMBAY is the most expensive city in the world to stay in overnight, according to a new survey of business travellers, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

The average price paid for a night's accommodation in a hotel in the Indian city in 1996 was £154.84, ahead of Moscow, where rooms cost on average £152.65 a night, and pushing Hong Kong, at £150.65, into third place.

Tokyo, for many years considered the world's most expensive city, plunged from first to 15th place after average room rates fell by more than 20 per cent to £126.55 a night. The world's costliest country for a night's stay is Russia, the survey, by Hogg Robinson Business Travel, notes. Argentina, with rooms averaging £136.60 a night, leapt to third spot, the survey says.

Mike Platt, Hogg Robinson's commercial affairs director, says that cities such as Bombay are rapidly running out of the kind of high-quality business hotel accommodation preferred by business travellers. He says: "India is the perfect example of a country in which there is a shortage of up-market hotels and where, as a result, prices are going through the roof. This is very much a business-travel phenomenon and does not reflect the prices paid by holidaymakers."

Business travellers are now increasingly looking for top quality, rather than cheapness, Hogg Robinson adds. Mr Platt says: "They are prepared to stay only in hotels in which they think that their stomach will be safe."

But now a new problem — guaranteeing a room at any price — is worrying business travellers, who are often being "gazumped" on their negotiated rates if they check in at the last moment or at peak times.

"Companies are finding that they have to pay premium rates to guarantee getting a room in London," Mr Platt says. "Hotel chains are making a quick buck while they can. They should be looking after their volume customers and honouring negotiated tariffs in order to retain loyalty in leaner timess."

Strong pound hits tourism

By Harvey Elliott

MILLIONS of foreign visitors are expected to turn their backs on Britain this year because of a 20 per cent increase in the value of the pound against many other currencies.

Less than 24 hours after Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, issued a policy document exhorting Britain's tourism industry to turn the country into the world's leading holiday destination, 200 in-bound tourism officials and agents heard that it is unlikely to happen — and that the Government's own policies were to blame.

In what amounted to a stinging rebuff for Mrs Bottomley and the Government the British Incoming Tour Operators Association (Bitoa), meeting in Jersey last week, were told that the tourism bubble, which has seen an almost constant increase in the number of visitors to Britain over the past five years, was about to burst. "The major reason for this is that Britain has recently become a relatively expensive destination for many of our traditional visitors," said Stuart Crouch, Bitoa chairman.

Mr Crouch also said that he was "bitterly disappointed" with the doubling of the airport tax which the Chancellor of the Exchequer apparently thought would make no difference to the number of visitors coming to Britain. "Quite why he thought a family of four travelling from outside the European Union would cough up £80 in airport duty — in addition to 17.5 per cent VAT on hotel accommodation and VAT on almost every other purchase they make is something only he can answer," he said.

Many in the industry now forecast that 1997 will show a drop in visitor numbers over 1996 and even the most optimistic forecast suggests that the increase will only be between 2 to 3 per cent.

Latest overseas visitor figures show that spending between January to November 1996 was up by 6 per cent on the same period of 1995 and that the number of overseas visitors was 24.3 million. Britain is now fifth in the league table of international tourism earnings.

New ferry on Irish route

A FOURTH ferry crossing between Scotland and Northern Ireland takes to the seas this summer, despite the year-long breakdown in the IRA ceasefire, *Steve Keenan writes.*

The Argyll & Antrim Steam Packet Company will operate seasonal service between Campbeltown and Ballycastle in Co. Antrim, starting on July 1 and offering two round trips a day with a crossing time of three hours. The *MV Claymore*, which can carry 300 passengers and 50 cars, will operate until October in the first year, extending in future years.

Hamish Ross, the managing director, expects almost half its passengers to be heading for the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland. He says: "The new service will become an important link between Ireland and Argyll and the Scottish Highlands and islands."

In its first season, the company expects to carry 10,000 cars and 30,000 passengers, at fares starting at £230 for a car and four adults for a midweek return, rising to £314 for a peak-period return.

The service is owned by Sea Containers, which also operates SeaCat Scotland between Stranraer and Belfast.

TRAVEL ON SATURDAY

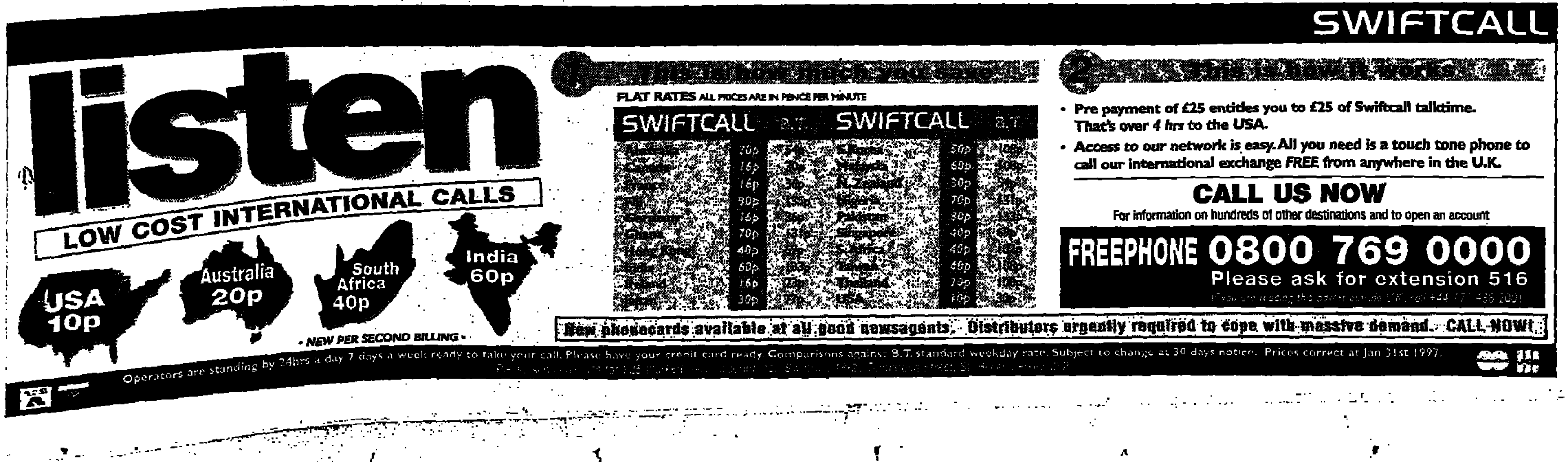
Stephen McClarence in India

Mediterranean: Cyprus and Corfu

USA: Leslie Thomas visits Tangier island

Cross-channel price wars

Britain: Buxton and the Dales



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THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13 1997

NEWS

Rushdie bounty raised to $2.5m

■ A shadowy Iranian foundation yesterday increased the reward for the murder of Salman Rushie by $500,000 to $2.5 million and said that even non-Muslims would be eligible to collect the bounty.

Britain swiftly denounced the move as as an "outrageous infringement" of the British author's fundamental rights and rejected attempts by President Rafsanjani to distance his Government from the offer.............**Pages 1, 2**

Labour to force critical vote

■ The Labour Party will attempt to harry John Major into an early general election by forcing a critical vote next Monday *calling for Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, to be sacked for his handling of the BSE crisis. If the Government* lost, a confidence vote *would follow*.............**Page 1**

Telephone winners

A British Airways offer of £10 Concorde seats which attracted 30 million calls was won by two British Telecom staff working in *the same office*.............**Page 1**

Woman priest boycott

A canon at St Paul's Cathedral has attacked the appointment of the cathedral's first woman priest as "typical of the liberal agenda" and says he will boycott her communion services.............**Page 1**

Peace meeting hitch

A meeting between US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Sir Patrick Mayhew on the Ulster peace process appears unlikely to take place.............**Page 2**

Drugs danger

A thriving network of private doctors is making huge sums by overprescribing illegal drugs to patients who then sell on the open market.............**Page 3**

Murder secret

The secret of *David Howells's involvement in the murder of his domineering wife Eve by their two schoolboy sons was locked away with him in a life sentence*.............**Page 6**

Ferryman's treasure

A ferryman is expected to make tens of thousands of pounds from his discovery of a Roman sculpture which archaeologists said was the best example of its type found in Scotland.............**Page 8**

Food of love

The latest show for Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber began to reveal its *list of stars after decades in creation. The composer is auctioning his wine cellar*.............**Page 10**

Forgiven at last

D. H. Lawrence has finally been welcomed back into Nottingham university which disowned its most famous student after he eloped with his professor's wife.............**Page 11**

Secret hoard

Behind the doors of Louis XIV's palace at Versailles lies a huge and embarrassing "secret" — 8,000 paintings and 2,000 statues kept from the public for nearly two decades through lack of funds.............**Page 13**

Christians hounded

Thousands of Pakistani Christians are living rough in tents after an estimated 20,000 Muslim rioters drove them from their homes in Punjab.............**Page 15**

Korean defection

In a devastating blow to the waning fortunes of the isolated North Korean regime, a close confidant of President Kim Jong Il, defected to South Korea.............**Page 16**

Motorways blocked

Scores of British lorry drivers were trapped in Spain as an increasingly violent strike by Spanish truckers closed most of the northern motorways.............**Page 17**

Sister left alone on her island

■ For 33 years two sisters lived on their island half a mile off the Cornish coast, supplied by a weekly boat. Their partnership has ended with the death of Evelyn Atkins, 87. Her sister Barbara, in her late 70s, is now the sole resident of St George's *Island, a stone's throw yet a world away from the other end of* their lifeline, the little harbour at West Looe.............**Page 5**

SIMON WALKER

A group of Italians who live in Dover were at the Bar Italia in London to cheer on their team for last night's World Cup qualifying game

BUSINESS

Jobs: Seasonally-adjusted unemployment fell 68,000 to 1,815,300 in January, its lowest level for six years, and a rate of 6.5 per cent.............**Page 27**

Tesco: The supermarket is to fire the latest shot in the store wars with the launch of a service to provide a credit card and a range of financial services, including mortgages, in a joint venture with the Royal Bank of Scotland.............**Page 27**

Gas: British Gas will from Monday become two companies after shareholders voted in favour of a demerger.............**Page 27**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 was unchanged at 4304.3. Sterling was unchanged at 98.2 falling from $1.6426 to $1.6332 and rising from DM2.7458 to DM2.7492.............**Page 30**

SPORT

Football: Scotland's 0-0 draw with Estonia left their supporters in a *muddled mental state*. Shock at the result mingled with recognition that the failure was all too easy to *explain*.............**Page 49**

Rugby union: The England management are downplaying the Ireland coach Brian Ashton's knowledge of English rugby as the most serious threat awaiting the team in Dublin.............**Page 46**

Cricket: England are likely to be unchanged for the final Test, a powerful argument in favour of their first overseas series win for five years.............**Page 48**

Skiing: Alberto Tomba relinquished his giant slalom title to Michael von Grünigen, of Switzerland, in Sestriere.............**Page 50**

Hamlet for heroes: Four hours of *startling enunciation, exhausting* flashbacks, visual overkill, *dazzling* wardrobes and *glossy casting: Geoff Brown* on Kenneth Branagh's *latest* bardery.............**Page 41**

Uneasy Ryder: Best of the video releases is *Boys*, with Winona Ryder; plus Jim Carrey in *The Cable Guy*, with enough rudery to appeal to half-termers.............**Page 42**

Moviemaking: Launching our competition, with the chance to win a £56,000 Arriflex camera, a look at the appeal of making movies on a shoestring.............**Page 43**

Clown prince: Peter Bowles firmly establishes himself alongside "the deftest, wittiest and most complete actors we possess" in Molière's *The School for Wives*.............**Page 43**

Heroes needed: Quentin Letts goes *in search of American* black role *models to* replace those who have fallen from grace.............**Page 19**

Dr Thomas Stuttaford: *St Valentine cares for epileptics; search for the food of love; need for scans;* illness *that targets women*.............**Page 18**

Writing on writers: Peter Ackroyd on Lord Byron; R. W. Johnson on South Africans; Oleg Gordievsky's old scores; Nicholas Wapshott on Audrey Hepburn.............**Pages 44, 45**

New deal: Britain's second biggest package-tour operator is selling Florida timeshares.............**Page 25**

Bargains: Springtime in Paris to a flutter in Las Vegas.............**Page 24**

Learning for life: Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the National Training Awards.............**Pages 37-40**

Belgrade is having a lot of trouble in assimilating the rudiments of democracy. After having acknowledged the opposition victory at the municipal elections then deciding to cancel in those areas where it was displeased with the success, it has just gone back to square one. All this shilly-shallying is a product of political farce — *Le Monde*

Preview: The ape closest to ourselves lives in Zaire. *Wildlife on One* (BBC1, 8pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss on the decline of a dramatic *masterpiece*.............**Page 51**

OPINION

No contest

On balance, the country (and the Labour Party) should be grateful — both for the Bank's vigilance on *inflation* and for the generally *sensible economic* judgment of Mr *Clarke*.............**Page 21**

Green at the edges

It again looks as if American foreign policy is merely the outcome of a trial of strength among assorted interest groups. If so, the Unionists can hardly be expected to trust the United States.............**Page 21**

Truth about the fatwa

Europe is no longer pursuing a credible policy on the Rushdie affair. Nor is it likely to do so unless Britain takes a lead.............**Page 21**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

In 1997 Britain and Germany each need to develop an imaginative sympathy for the other's historic point of view. Neither country is very good at doing that.............**Page 20**

MAGNUS LINKLATER

Here was a judge exercising discretion — not so much with what Edmund Burke described as "the cold neutrality of an impartial judge", but rather with the humanity of one concerned by the wider interests of justice.............**Page 20**

PETER RIDDELL

The Tories are *having the better of the pre-election argument over the economy, but it may not do them much* good *electorally*.............**Page 12**

JOHN BRYANT

Dancing's latest partner, unlikely as it sounds, is rugby union. Rugby players at Cambridge University have apparently found that something was lacking in training — and have taken up ballet.............**Page 50**

Lawrence A Fleischman, art collector; **Squadron Leader Bunny Rymills**, Lysander pilot; **Barry Evans**, actor.............**Page 23**

LETTERS

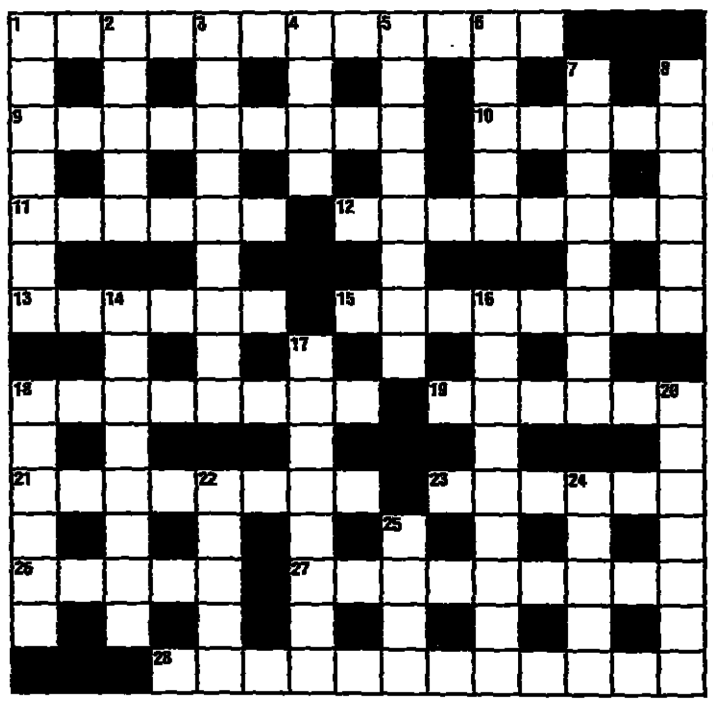
PR and the popular will; modern church; prostate cancer; legal aid; NHS waiting lists; Holocaust denial; Concorde tickets.............**Page 21**

IN THE TIMES

■ ROCK
David Sinclair meets Aerosmith, the bad boys of rock'n'roll who turned over a new leaf

■ EDUCATION
Extra league tables are planned for schools. But can parents cope with *more information?*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,402



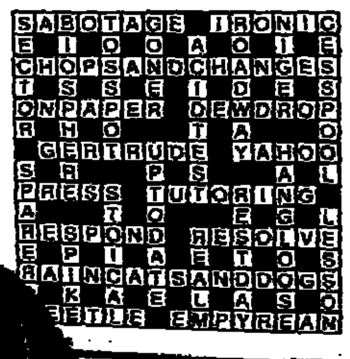
ACROSS

1 *Reprimand for appearing in casual attire* (8-4).
9 *Numbers can be found at the end of this book* (9).
10 Some poplar, chestnut, or other wood (5).
11 Way into actual room used by minister (6).
12 Doctor injecting poet with drug (8).
13 Given refund when protective clothing's returned (6).
15 Ducks, *for instance, making people use bad language* (8).
18 *As coteries might be?* (8).
19 Piece of the cloth (6).
21 Contemptuously dismiss bears (4-4).
23 Car in extremely fine condition (6).
26 Shot entire sequence (5).
27 It might produce manic peal (9).
28 Record a great deal about incident with the old (7-5).

DOWN

1 *Being upset, poured scorn on surrender* (7).
2 Famous American leading entertainer, lifting voice in song (5).
3 It's dark, so Scots retire inside (9).
4 Pleasant new girl's best friend (4).
5 Find divorces moving (8).
6 Welts, i.e. beats soundly (5).
7 Oliver, not fit to be a roue, remains in Avebury (8).
8 Fish taking mouse (6).
14 Stop meeting with professional criminal (8).
16 Fruit in jelly, in Bristol fashion? (9).
17 *Woman making dire cove free?* (8).
18 Monarchy political leader turned into republic (6).
20 Put on to hand (7).
22 Serviceman, in more ways than one (5).
24 Intimidating a player on the side (5).
25 Give off while upset (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,401



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INFORMATION

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Highland, 03C (37F); highest rainfall: Bristol, 0.99in; highest sunshine: Lerwick, Shetland, 4.4hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have rain at first but this should clear away to the east to allow brighter *weather with showers to spread* across most parts from the west. The very strong winds in the south will moderate but it will feel rather cold. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy with rain at times but it should turn more showery in Northern Ireland. Eastern Scotland should be mainly dry for the most part. Rather *windy in places. Temperatures below* average.

☐ ***London, SE England, E Anglia,* Central S England, Midlands:** rain soon clearing to leave bright or sunny intervals and scattered showers. Wind westerly, very strong at first but moderating later. Rather cold. Max temp 07C (45F).

☐ **E England, Central N, NE England:** bright start, rain spreading from the west, snow on hills. Becoming brighter and mainly dry. Wind westerly, fresh becoming strong, perhaps touching gale. Max 06C (43F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, Northern Ireland:** bright or sunny intervals and showers. Wind *westerly, strong to gale, moderating* later. Rather cold, max 07C (45F).

☐ ***NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man,* SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll:** rather cloudy, rain for a time, snow on hills. Becoming more showery later. Wind westerly, strong occasionally gale. Max 06C (43F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** mainly dry, some bright or sunny intervals. Wind westerly, moderate increasing strong. Max 05C (41F).

☐ **Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, rain at times. Snow on hills. Wind mainly northeasterly, *becoming north or northwest*, fresh to strong. Max 06C (43F).

☐ **Outlook:** *wintry showers in the* north; mainly dry elsewhere with sunny spells.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

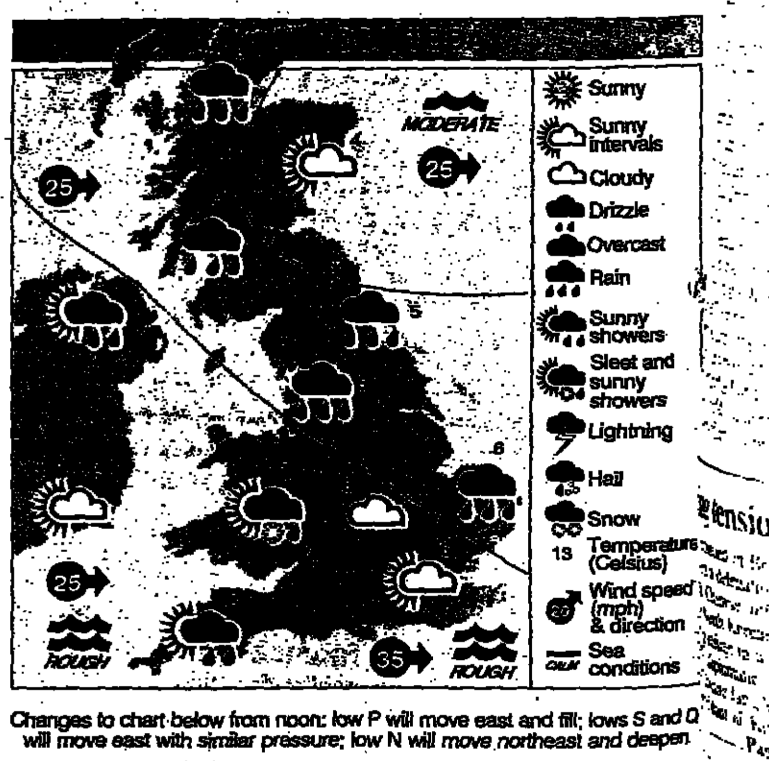
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Aberdeen	-	0.50	6	43	r	Littlehmptn	-	0.31	9	48	r
Anglesey	0.5	0.02	10	50	r	London	-	0.23	12	54	r
Aspatria	-	0.59	9	48	r	Lowestoft	-	0.19	11	52	r
Aviemore	-	0.18	3	37	r	Manchester	0.4	0.25	13	55	sh
Belfast	0.2	0.21	11	52	sh	Margate	-	0.29	11	52	r
Birmingham	0.1	0.18	12	54	r	Minehead	-	0.79	12	54	r
Bognor R	-	0.24	10	50	r	Morecambe	-	0.48	10	50	r
Bournem'th	-	0.16	10	50	r	Newcastle	0.9	0.17	13	55	r
Bristol	-	0.99	12	54	r	Newquay	-	0.24	12	54	r
Buxton	-	0.65	10	50	r	Norwich	0.2	0.23	12	54	r
Cardiff	0.1	0.60	11	52	sh	Poole	-	0.39	11	52	r
Clacton	-	0.14	8	46	c	Prestatyn	X	0.11	13	55	b
Colwyn Bay	2.5	0.12	14	57	c	Ross-o-wye	0.5	0.30	12	54	r
Cromer	-	0.26	12	54	r	Salcombe	X				
Eastbourne	-	0.34	10	50	r	Sandown	-	0.29	11	52	r
Edinburgh	0.2	0.46	12	54	r	Saunton Snd	X				
Eskdalemuir	-	0.79	7	45	r	Scarboro'	1.4	0.30	12	54	sh
Exmouth	-	0.15	11	52	d	Shanklin	X				
Falmouth	-	0.15	11	52	g	Shrewsbury	0.7	0.15	13	55	r
Fishguard	0.1	0.19	11	52	r	Skegness	-	0.28	12	54	sh
Folkestone	-	0.39	10	50	r	Southend	X				
Glasgow	-	0.87	11	52	r	Southport	1.8	0.22	12	54	r
Guernsey	-	0.40	13	55	r	Southsea	X				
Hastings	-	0.42	8	46	r	Stornoway	-	0.19	6	43	r
Hayling I.	-	0.24	10	50	r	Swanage	-	0.13	10	50	r
Herne Bay	-	0.19	11	52	sh	Teignmouth	-	0.19	12	54	r
Hove	-	X	9	48	r	Tenby	X				
Hunstanton	X	0.29	12	54	sh	Tiree	-	0.77	9	48	r
Isle of Man	0.4	0.27	10	50	sh	Torquay	-	0.30	11	52	r
Jersey	-	0.18	11	52	r	Tynemouth	X				
Kinloss	-	0.21	6	43	r	Ventnor	-	0.19	9	48	d
Leeds	0.8	0.20	13	55	r	West-s-mare	-	0.80	12	54	r
Lerwick	4.4	0.02	7	45	s	Weymouth	-	0.11	9	48	c

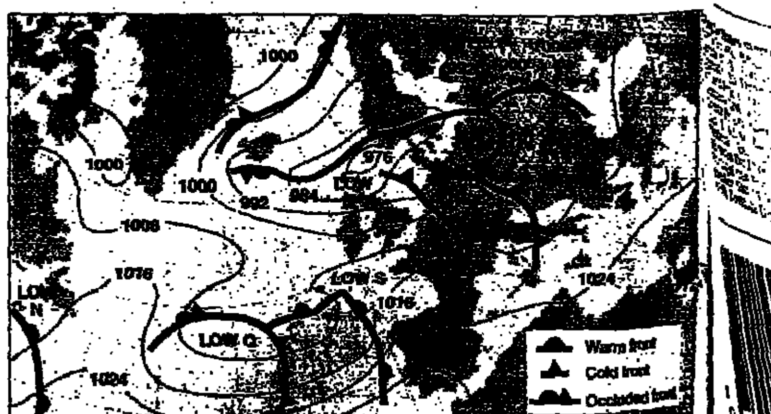
ABROAD

Ajaccio	14	57	c	Corfu	14	57	s	Majorca	16	61	f	Rome	16	61	f
Akrotiri	16	61	s	C'phagn	5	41	f	Malaga	17	63	s	S Fr'isco	12	54	s
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Dublin	8	46	r	Malta	X	X	X	S Paulo	31	88	f
Algiers	18	64	s	Dubrovnik	13	55	s	Melb'rne	20	68	f	Salzburg	4	39	c
Amst'dm	8	46	f	Faro	18	64	s	Mexico C	17	63	s	Santiago	30	86	s
Athens	15	59	s	Florence	13	55	c	Miami	19	66	s	Seoul	1	34	s
B Aires	23	73	f	Frankfurt	7	45	s	Milan	14	57	s	Sing'por	32	90	f
Bahrain	19	66	c	Funchal	19	66	s	Montreal	-12	10	fg	St'kholm	2	36	r
Bangkok	34	93	s	Geneva	12	54	f	Moscow	1	34	sn	Strasb'rg	9	48	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Munich	3	37	r	Sydney	21	70	r
Barcelona	14	57	s	Helsinki	1	34	c	N Delhi	18	64	s	Tangier	18	64	s
Beirut	15	59	f	Hong K	16	61	f	N York	3	37	s	Tel Aviv	15	59	f
Belgrade	13	55	s	Innsbrck	9	48	f	Nairobi	29	84	s	Tenerife	20	68	s
Berlin	8	46	f	Istanbul	9	48	s	Naples	15	59	f	Tokyo	12	54	s
Bermuda	19	66	r	Jeddah	23	73	s	Nice	13	55	s	Toronto	-1	30	c
Biarritz	12	54	d	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Oslo	6	43	f	Tunis	15	59	f
Bord'x	13	55	[illegible]	L Angels	14	57	s	Paris	9	48	s	Valencia	19	66	s
Brussels	7	45	s	L Palmas	20	68	f	Peking	6	43	s	Vanc'ver	3	37	r
Budapst	-1	30	fg	Le Touquet	7	45	f	Perth	33	91	s	Venice	4	39	c
Cairo	17	63	c	Lisbon	16	61	f	Prague	7	45	s	Vienna	8	46	c
Cape Tn	22	72	f	Locarno	8	46	s	Reykjavik	1	34	f	Warsaw	6	43	f
Ch'church	X	X	X	Luxembg	5	41	f	Rhodes	15	59	s	Wash'ton	3	37	f
Chicago	-4	25	sn	Luxor	20	68	s	Rio de J	28	82	s	Wel'ngton	X	X	X
Cologne	9	48	f	Madrid	11	52	s	Riyadh	17	63	s	Zurich	7	45	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low P will move east and fill; lows S and Q will move east with similar pressure; low N will move northeast and deepen



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	05.39	7.2	18.12	7.0	Leith	06.43	5.2	18.07	5.3
Aberdeen	05.26	4.0	17.42	4.1	Liverpool	03.00	8.9	[illegible]	8.0
Avonmouth	11.12	12.6	23.29	11.9	Lowestoft	00.59	2.6	[illegible]	2.2
Belfast	03.06	3.5	15.28	3.4	Margate	03.43	4.7	[illegible]	4.4
Cardiff	10.58	11.7	23.15	11.1	Milford Haven	10.18	6.6	22.41	6.1
Devonport	09.50	5.2	22.12	4.9	Newquay	09.15	6.6	[illegible]	6.2
Dover	02.44	6.6	15.12	6.2	Oban	09.45	3.5	[illegible]	3.3
Dublin (N Wall)	03.38	3.9	15.59	4.0	Penzance	08.38	5.3	21.00	[illegible]
Falmouth	09.21	5.0	21.43	4.7	Portland	10.45	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Greenock	04.20	3.5	16.39	3.6	Portsmouth	03.18	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Harwich	03.30	4.1	16.00	3.8	Shoreham	02.57	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Holyhead	02.11	5.2	14.34	5.4	Southampton	02.35	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hull (Albert D)	10.17	8.2	22.33	8.5	Swansea	10.24	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ilfracombe	10.03	8.7	22.21	8.2	Tees	07.53	[illegible]	[illegible]	5.1
King's Lynn	10.27	6.0	22.37	6.3	Walton-on-N	03.24	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.0

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

Sun rises: 7.18 am
Sun sets: 5.12 pm
Moon sets: -
Moon rises: 10.11 am

First quarter tomorrow

London 5.12 pm to 7.18 am
Bristol 5.22 pm to 7.28 am
Edinburgh 5.13 pm to 7.40 am
Manchester 5.16 pm to 7.30 am
Penzance 5.37 pm to 7.36 am

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